

THE KEW GARDENS CENTENARY By SIR ARTHUR HILL (Illus.)

# Country Life

MARCH 29, 1941

APR 7 '41

ONE SHILLING



REFLECTIONS IN THE FORD: KERSEY, SUFFOLK

H. D. KEILOR

## MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advertisements for this column are accepted at the rate of 2d. per word prepaid (if Box Number used 9d. extra), and must reach this office not later than Wednesday morning for the coming week's issue.

All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

FURS that have not been tortured in traps. Ask for Fur Crusade List from Major VAN DER BYL, Wappenham, Towcester.

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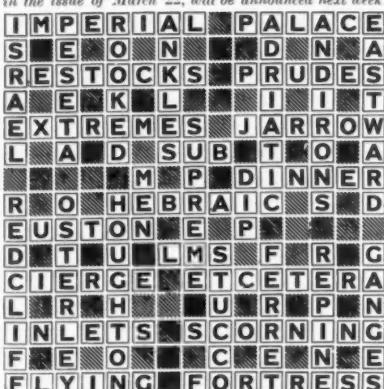
THE TRIANGLE Secretarial College, South Molton Street, W.1, May, 5306-8, Residential Branch: Gerrards Cross, Bucks.

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## SOLUTION to No. 582

The winner of this crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of March 22, will be announced next week.



## ACROSS.

- It is not West Country dairies that have given this drink its name (two words, 7, 4)
- Beg this for one just starting (5)
- He might be in command of the vanguard all the same (two words, 4, 7)
- It marked a run (5)
- A flower that turns to tears (5)
- The first letter might bring them from the sea into church (5)
- Caught, perhaps (3)
- The coach that is left behind (4)
- It should be more substantial than nonsense (5)
- Loathsome aspect of death (5)
- A tradesman says what he is doing to obtain a high standard (5)
- There is this in a cab-horse to dislike (5)
- Consider the reward reversed (4)
- The heart of 30 (3)
- Painted brown it should be a suitable setting for musing (5)
- The poet to get round an animal (5)
- Sea pirate (5)

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## "COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 583

A prize of books to the value of two guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 583, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the **first post on the morning of Thursday, April 3, 1941.**

The winner of Crossword No. 581 is

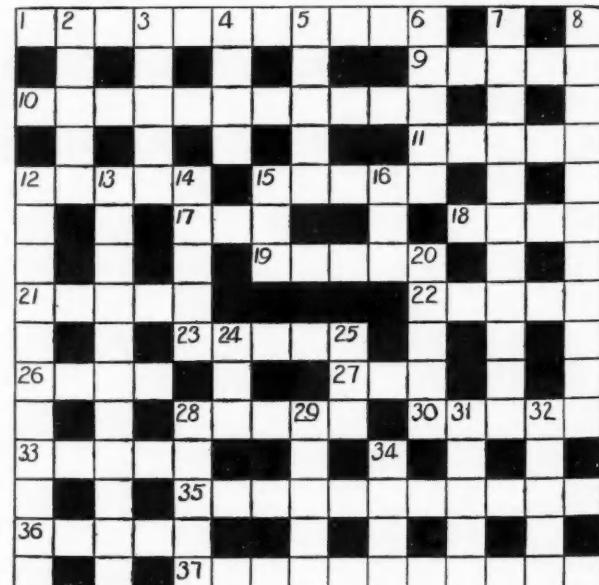
Mrs. R. W. Allott,  
25, Taptonville Road,  
Sheffield, 10.

- And — of great pith and moment  
With this regard their currents turn awry,  
And lose the name of action.—Shakespeare (11)
- The men of this town owe fealty to King Leopold (5)
- What we eat and sleep for (11)

## DOWN.

- Should dancers get wound up for them? (5)
- Material for the Navy? (5)
- A province of India (4)
- They can acquire tone in Kent (5)
- "Slink" (anagr.) (5)
- These don't come all at once (11)
- A group of 15 (11)
- How to go twice as fast (three words, 2, 3, 6)
- Pigeons that topple over? (11)
- Spanish city (5)
- 15 and 16. The actual thing or its fairy shape (6)
- A glorious June day (5)
- Put some money on the beam to double-cross (6)
- A beast to guide (5)
- In a — nighted December,  
Too happy, happy tree.—Keats (5)
- It's an established principle (5)
- One end for a novelist (5)
- Copies (4).

## "COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 583



Name .....

Address .....

# COUNTRY LIFE

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AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

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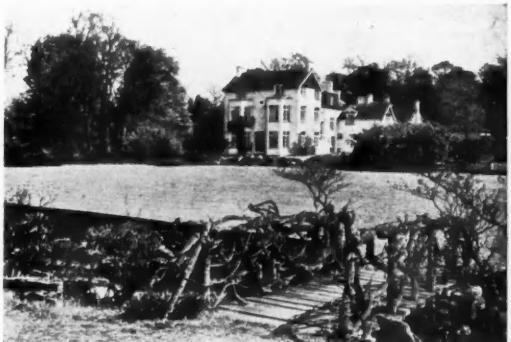
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GROUNDS OF SINGULAR CHARM

with full-size tennis lawn, well-stocked kitchen garden, herbaceous borders and grassland.

In all about 6½ ACRES

A Really Choice Small Property  
for Sale at a Tempting Price.

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD.,  
6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

(Ref. c.44,503.) (REG. 8222.)

BRANCH OFFICE: HIGH STREET, WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19 (Phone: WIM. 0081).

\*Phone: Grosvenor 2861.  
\*Grams: "Cornishmen, London."

## TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, W.1

### S. DEVON. £3,400

*Beautiful position, facing South, unsurpassed views.*

#### WILLIAM AND MARY RESIDENCE

3 reception, 2 bath, 9 bedrooms.  
Main water and light.

COTTAGE. STABLING. GARAGE.

#### WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS

intersected by stream with waterfall.  
SALMON AND TROUT FISHING.

6½ ACRES

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (5,653.)

#### 35 OR 250 ACRES

110 ACRES pasture, remainder arable and wood.

#### SUSSEX

#### LOVELY OLD MANOR HOUSE

FULL OF OLD OAK AND OTHER FEATURES.

3 reception, 3 bathrooms, 7 bedrooms.

Electric light. New drainage. Telephone. "Aga" cooker. Stabling. Garages. 2 Cottages. Farmbuildings. SECONDARY HOUSE (2 reception, bath, 4 bedrooms).

#### FOR SALE AS WHOLE

OR WOULD SELL HOUSE WITH SMALLER AREA.  
TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (18,249.)

#### 97 ACRES

£4,750

### 8 MILES NEWMARKET

#### CHARMING OLD HOUSE, MODERNISED

4 reception. 2 bath. 6 bedrooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.

GARAGES (for 3). AMPLE FARMBUILDINGS.  
2 COTTAGES.

Gardens. Excellent Pastures (let).

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (19,746.)

### £2,700 FOR 60 YEARS' LEASE

G.R. £20 p.a.

(Half can remain on Mortgage.)

### SOUTH DEVON. 6 ACRES

#### ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE

Billiard room, 2 reception, 2 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.

Garage. Kitchen garden, orchard and land (4 Acres let).

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,581.)

### £5,000.

### RARE OPPORTUNITY

#### ¾-mile Trout Fishing

#### DEVON

Beautiful part of Dartmoor.

#### CHARMING GRANITE-BUILT HOUSE

4 reception, billiard room, studio, 2 bathrooms, 7 bedrooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.

Garage, Stabling, Farmhouse and Buildings.

LANDSCAPE GARDENS SLOPING TO RIVER.

Bathing pool. Pasture and Arable.

#### 65 ACRES

Land easily let if not wanted.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (17,052.)

### COTSWOLDS

9 miles Burford. ½ mile station.

#### FINE COTSWOLD RESIDENCE

11 bedrooms (most with fitted basins, h. and c.), 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, lounge hall.

Electric light. Central heating. "Aga" cooker.

Garage for 4. 6 loose boxes. Excellent lodge.

#### DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS

Kitchen and fruit garden, good pastureland.

#### 50 ACRES

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (12,480.)

#### FOR BUSINESS EVACUATION, Etc.

### HERTS. £4,000. BARGAIN

300ft. up. Easy daily reach London.

#### CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE

14 bed. 2 bath. 3 Reception. Billiard room.

#### Main services.

#### GROUNDS 2½ ACRES

MORE LAND AVAILABLE.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (11,469.)

#### 340 OR 400 ACRES

### OXON—GLOS. BORDERS

700ft. up. Mile Town and Station.

#### COTSWOLD FARMHOUSE

7 bedrooms. Bathroom. 2 reception.

Main water and electricity. "Aga" cooker.

GARAGES. FARMBUILDINGS. COTTAGES.

Well-farmed land. Good pasture.

#### FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

(part of land easily let off). No tithe or land tax.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,375.)

### ESSEX-SUFFOLK (borders)

(Constable's Country).

#### WELL-BUILT FAMILY RESIDENCE

4 reception, 2 bath, 8-12 bedrooms.

Main electricity. Central heating. Gravitation water.

GARAGE (with flat over) and STABLES

(Let at £100 p.a.).

#### LOVELY GARDENS.

Kitchen garden, glasshouses, paddock.

#### 9 ACRES.

£5,950.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (11,957.)

Telephone No.  
Regent 4304.

## OSBORN &amp; MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET  
PICCADILLY, W.1.**GUILDFORD AND HORSHAM**  
**DELIGHTFUL OLD ELIZABETHAN**  
**HOUSE RESTORED & MODERNISED***In rural country with splendid views.*

3 reception, 9 bedrooms (all with lavatory basins, h. and c.), 2 bathrooms.

*A wealth of old oak, open fireplaces, etc.*

Main services. Central heating.

**FINE OLD TITHE BARN CONVERTED INTO**  
**A COTTAGE.**

Beautiful gardens, some woodland, pasture, etc.

**ABOUT 20 ACRES**

For Sale by OSBORN &amp; MERCER. (17,006.)

**ADJOINING A SURREY GARDEN***In a high healthy position on sandy soil.***AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN**  
**RESIDENCE**

with 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

*All Main Services. Central Heating.*

Delightful gardens and grounds with some

*Woodland intercepted by a stream.***ABOUT 3½ ACRES****FOR SALE FREEHOLD.**

Full details from OSBORN &amp; MERCER. (M.2192.)

**DEVON***An attractive small Residential and Sporting Property.***UP-TO-DATE STONE-BUILT HOUSE**  
with 3 reception, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.*Main Electricity. Central Heating.*Small Farm with Modern House and good  
Buildings.**HALF MILE OF TROUT-FISHING.****FOR SALE WITH 16 OR 74 ACRES.**

Agents: OSBORN &amp; MERCER. (17,199.)

**SUSSEX — Adjoining Golf Course.***700ft. up with fine panoramic views over*  
*Ashdown Forest.***A DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE**  
**BUILT IN THE TUDOR STYLE**

Hall, 2 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

*Thoroughly up-to-date and labour-saving, with*  
*all main services, central heating, lav. basins in*  
*bedrooms, etc.*Charming Gardens and Grounds, including lawns, rose and rock gardens, tennis court, kitchen garden, etc.; in all **ABOUT 2 ACRES.**

For Sale by OSBORN &amp; MERCER. (M. 1945.)

**HANTS***In a high and bracing district, adjoining miles of lovely*  
*unspoilt country.***A Delightful**  
**Residence of Georgian Character**

Up-to-date.

Near good golf.



Square hall, 4 reception, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

*Modern Conveniences. Lodge. Stabling, etc.*Delightful well-timbered Gardens, inexpensive of  
upkeep, orchard, paddocks, etc.; in all about**10 ACRES**

For Sale by OSBORN &amp; MERCER. (17,217.)

**SOMERSET - WILTS - DORSET BORDERS**

Readily accessible to London by express trains.

**FOR SALE****AN EXCELLENT COUNTRY HOUSE**with modern appointments, standing in pleasant  
inexpensive gardens, enjoying good views over well-  
wooded country.

3 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

2 Cottages. Stabling. Paddocks.

**24 ACRES (or less if required)***Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents to anyone*  
*wanting an inexpensive House in good social and*  
*sporting district.* (17,183.)3, MOUNT STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

## RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR

Telephones:  
Grosvenor 1032-33.**OXFORDSHIRE CHILTERN***Magnificent views.**Oxford 14 miles.***EXQUISITELY APPOINTED RESIDENCE**

Part of which dates back many years.

4 reception. 12 bedrooms. 5 bathrooms.

**HUGE SUMS SPENT IN COMPLETE RENOVATION.***Main water. Central heating. Electricity.*HARD COURT, SWIMMING POOL, 2 COTTAGES, LOVELY GARDENS,  
LAWNS, FINE OLD TREES, GARAGES, BAILIFF'S HOUSE, HOME FARM.**130 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

Full particulars, apply RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR, as above. (12,680.)

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (20 miles by road)***Quiet and restful. Lovely views over parkland.***FAITHFUL TUDOR REPLICA**

IDEAL FOR RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS EVACUATION.

Suite of reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

*All main services. Central heating.***BUNGALOW. GARAGE. COTTAGE.**

GARDENS OF GREAT CHARM. SPECIMEN TREES A FEATURE.

**7 ACRES. VALUABLE ROAD FRONTAGES.****IMMEDIATE SALE DESIRED**

Contents can be purchased if required.

Confidentially recommended from personal knowledge by the Agents, RALPH PAY  
and TAYLOR, as above. (10,780.)

## F FARMS FOR SALE, OCCUPATION OR INVESTMENT

**BUCKS***Convenient for Tring and Aylesbury.***FIRST-CLASS FEEDING AND**  
**DAIRY FARM**

extending to about

**300 ACRES**

Partly bounded by running stream.

GOOD HOUSE AND EXCELLENT BUILDINGS.  
COWHOUSE FOR 30.**FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION**  
PRICE £8,500

Full particulars of the above properties can be obtained from Messrs. RALPH PAY &amp; TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1.

**NORTHANTS****COMPACT SMALL AGRICULTURAL**  
**ESTATE**

2 FARMHOUSES. SETS OF BUILDINGS.

4 COTTAGES. LOW OUTGOINGS.

**625 ACRES**

A SOUND INVESTMENT.

**OXFORDSHIRE****SPLENDID COTSWOLD FARM**  
**ABOUT 400 ACRES**

FIRST-CLASS FARMHOUSE AND COMMODIOUS

BUILDINGS, 5 COTTAGES.

ATTRACTIVE 4% INVESTMENT.

**MIDLANDS****FOUR FIRST-CLASS FARMS**

extending to about

**700 ACRES**

with attractive

HOMESTEADS AND COMPLETE SETS OF

BUILDINGS

(all in excellent state of repair), producing a

**GROSS INCOME OF OVER £1,100 p.a.**  
NOMINAL OUTGOINGS.

Telephone No.:  
Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines.)

## GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.I.

And at  
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
68, Victoria Street,  
Westminster, S.W.1.

### COTSWOLDS

400ft. up. 10 minutes bus route. Safe area.  
FINE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE



SOLE AGENTS: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (7223.)

with spacious rooms, ideal for school, business purposes, etc.  
20 bed, 3 bath, 2 halls, 4 reception rooms, billiard room (now Chapel). Main electric light, Good water, Central heating, Radiators, Garage.

15 ACRES GROUNDS AND MEADOW.

FOR SALE,  
MIGHT BE LET

TO BE LET FURNISHED WITH 3,000 ACRES SHOOTING AND 2 MILES TROUT FISHING.

### ABERDEENSHIRE

FINE OLD RESIDENCE containing valuable old furniture, art treasures and historical relics.  
23 bed, 4 bath, 8 reception rooms.  
GARAGE, COTTAGES, Etc.  
BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS.  
RENT ACCORDING TO PERIOD



GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (8643.)

### WESTERN COUNTIES

NEAR MARKET TOWN.



#### ARCHITECT-BUILT RESIDENCE

3 reception. Study. 5 bed and dressing. 3 baths. Main electric light and water, modern drainage, central heating.

DOUBLE GARAGE. 2 ACRES OF GROUND.

#### FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (c.7071.)

### ADJOINING GOLF. 17 MILES SOUTH

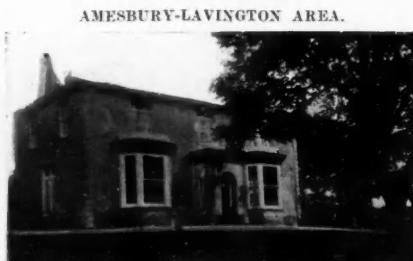


A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE PROPERTY in a secluded position (near two electric services to City and West End). Completely Modern and UP-TO-DATE HOUSE in course of erection, on site of previous house destroyed by fire, in LOVELY MATURED GROUNDS OF 6 ACRES, with hard court and natural woodland, with stream. The Residence will contain 7 bed and dressing, 4 bath, 4 reception rooms, and have all main services, central heating and basins in bedrooms. Garage. Picturesque thatched double-entrance Lodge.

Recommended by Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (c.1425.)

### WILTSHIRE

AMESBURY-LAVINGTON AREA.



#### FOR SALE FREEHOLD

6 bed, bath, 2 reception rooms, good offices. Main water. Electric light available. STABLING AND GARAGE.

PRETTY GARDENS; in all about 1½ ACRES

Further particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.I. (A.3495.)

## JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1. (Regent 0911.)

### FOOTHILLS OF COTSWOLDS

MODERNISED stone-built COUNTRY RESIDENCE; southern aspect; lovely views surrounded by its own lands of nearly 150 ACRES, and away from all main-road traffic. Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Electric light and central heating. 2 Cottages. Stabling and garage. Splendid farm buildings.

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,500.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 19,785.)

### SOUTHERN WILTSHIRE

IN A FAVOURITE PART.

In a high situation, surrounded by own park, away from traffic, but near omnibus route and convenient for main-line station with fast non-stop trains to London.

SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE of character, modernised. Accommodation: Hall (22ft. by 16ft.), drawing room (36ft. by 22ft.), dining room and study, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, servants' hall. Electric light; central heating, etc. 2 Lodges at drive entrance. Stabling for 8. Garage for 3 and other good outbuildings. Terraced gardens, tennis court, walled kitchen garden and land of about 84 ACRES. A most moderate price is quoted for this very attractive property with Vacant Possession.—JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 16,808.)

### CLOSE TO THE WILTSHIRE DOWNS



GEORGIAN COUNTRY RESIDENCE, about 500ft. above sea level, amidst unspoiled surroundings, commanding lovely views of the Downs. Near village and omnibus service. Excellent sporting district. Lounge, hall and 3 sitting rooms, 9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and magnificent cellars. Electric light; partial central heating; constant hot water. Stabling; garage. 2 Cottages.

ABOUT 20 ACRES.

Inspected and recommended by Owner's Agents: Messrs. JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 19,671.)

### MID-SOMERSET

PICTURESQUE STONE-BUILT COUNTRY RESIDENCE, in almost faultless order; 1 mile local station and near bus route. Hunting, Polo, Shooting, Golf. Southern aspect. 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Electric light and central heating. Co.'s water. COTTAGE.

ABOUT 2 ACRES

(20 Acres rented). JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 11,488.)

### WESTERN MIDLANDS

500 FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.—South-western aspect; magnificent views of Black Mountains; within short distance of two good towns. Lounge hall and 3 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, children's play-room; electric light. Charming grounds; good outbuildings.

PRICE £3,500 FREEHOLD.

Or would be Let Furnished.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 12,184.)

"HOLLY LODGE," BERGH-APTON (formerly the residence of Lord Canterbury).

Secluded situation 7 miles south of Norwich.

AN ATTRACTIVE SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE in 4 Acres, 3 reception, 5 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 baths, servants' sitting room and 2 bedrooms. Main electricity. Ample outbuildings. Gardener's Cottage near; reliable man will remain. £2,400 or near.—Apply, R. H. SPRAKE, Estate Agent, Bungay, Suffolk.

FOOTNOTES: GLOUCESTERSHIRE  
IN A SAFE AREA 11 MILES FROM GLOUCESTER.

### CHOICE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

containing:

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 6 BEDROOMS, USUAL OFFICES, GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS.

#### GROUNDS OF 22 ACRES

with Lodge and Gardener's Cottage.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND GOOD WATER SUPPLY.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

For full particulars apply to: LESLIE J. SLADE, Solicitor, Newent, Glos.

FOR SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORD, WORCS., etc., and MID WALES, apply leading Agents: (Phone: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, SHREWSBURY. 2061.)

SALISBURY & DISTRICT.—ESTATE AGENTS.  
MYDDELTON & MAJOR, F.A.I., SALISBURY.

### DEVON AND S. & W. COUNTIES

THE ONLY COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED REGISTER.

Price 2 6.

SELECTED LISTS FREE.

RIPPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I., (Est. 1884.) EXETER.

HAMPSHIRE & SOUTHERN COUNTIES  
17, Above Bar, Southampton. WALLER & KING, F.A.I.  
Business Established over 100 years.

5, MOUNT STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

## CURTIS &amp; HENSON

Telephones:  
Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines).  
ESTABLISHED 1875.

## SOMERSETSHIRE

Yeovil 7 miles.



## STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE

with old mullioned windows, standing in finely timbered grounds.

3-4 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, model offices.

Electric light. Main water.

GARAGE AND STABLING.

Gardener's cottage.

## CHARMING GARDENS AND GROUNDS

interspersed with specimen timber trees, walled kitchen garden and pastureland; in all about 9½ ACRES.

## PRICE £3,250 FREEHOLD

CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,325.)

## 40 MILES FROM LONDON

## A CHARMING RESIDENCE

built in the farmhouse style; up to date and in first-class order throughout.

3 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main water, gas and electricity.

Garage (for 2 cars), 2 excellent Cottages, delightful playroom.

Lawn tennis court. Prolific kitchen garden.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS of very great charm; fine woodland merging into heathland and several paddocks.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT  
25 OR 71 ACRESConfidentially recommended by the Sole Agents:  
CURTIS & HENSON. (16,432.)

## WORCESTERSHIRE

Near Pershore.

CHARACTERISTIC QUEEN ANNE  
HOUSE

EXCELLENTLY FURNISHED.

Facing South and near the River Avon.

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom.

Electric light and good water supply.

## GARDEN AND TENNIS COURT

## TO LET FURNISHED

CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (15,457.)

## HERTFORDSHIRE

Excellent train service to London.



## A MODERN RESIDENCE

built of the best materials.

Lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating. Company's water supply.

GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS.

## BEAUTIFUL GARDENS.

tennis court, sunken lawn, lovely rock garden, vegetable garden; in all nearly 2 ACRES.

## FOR SALE FREEHOLD

CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (15,151.)

## SUSSEX

WITHIN 2 MILES OF HORSHAM STATION

## MODERN HOUSE

in lovely grounds.

2 large reception rooms, maids' sitting room, sun loggia and sunner house, 5 bedrooms and maids' room, bathroom.

Central heating throughout.

Companies' water and electric light.

All usual offices.

The GROUNDS include a tennis court and extend to

ABOUT 3 ACRES.



## TO BE LET FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED

Apply CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (15,485.)

## F. L. MERCER &amp; CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone: REGENT 2481.

## A DELIGHTFUL SITUATION IN HERTFORDSHIRE, NEAR ST. ALBANS

OCCUPYING AN ELEVATED AND RURAL POSITION. COMMANDING FINE VIEWS. 24 MILES FROM LONDON.

CHARMING RESIDENCE OF  
MODERN ARCHITECTURE3 RECEPTION, 7-8 BEDROOMS,  
BATHROOM.

Perfect repair.

All modern conveniences, including main  
electricity.

2 GARAGES.

## DELIGHTFUL GARDENS.

2 ACRES. FREEHOLD. £5,500



Agents: F. L. MERCER &amp; CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

## A GARDEN LOVER'S PARADISE AMIDST EXQUISITE SURROUNDINGS

SURREY AND HAMPSHIRE BORDERS.

ONE MILE FROM THE INTERESTING OLD COUNTRY TOWN OF FARNHAM

320FT. UP.

ON SAND AND GRAVEL SOIL.

FACING SOUTH.

60 MINUTES WATERLOO.

MODERN GEORGIAN RESIDENCE  
OF CHARACTERSurrounded by uncommonly attractive pleasure  
grounds of great natural beauty.

3 reception rooms, loggia, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main electric light, gas and water.

GARAGE. FULL-SIZED TENNIS LAWN.

Paved terrace with lovely views, formal paved garden with lily pond.

Pine wood with picturesque walks; many fine specimen flowering and evergreen shrubs.

7 ACRES. FREEHOLD

FOR SALE AT MUCH LESS THAN COST TO  
PRESENT OWNER.A Unique Home of Peaceful Charm  
which must be seen to be appreciated.

Agents: F. L. MERCER &amp; CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

(F. L. MERCER &amp; CO.'s advertisements continued on page xi.)

14, MOUNT STREET,  
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

## WILSON & CO.

Telephone :  
Grosvenor 1441 (three lines).

### GLORIOUS POSITION on the COTSWOLDS



#### HISTORIC TUDOR MANOR HOUSE

Superbly appointed and in perfect order. With fine oak panelling and fireplaces. Hall, 5 reception rooms, 8 principal bedrooms, 5 staff rooms, 5 bathrooms. Central heating. Main electricity. First-class Garages and Stabling. Home Farm, Dower House and 5 Cottages. GLORIOUS OLD GARDENS, New Hard Tennis Court, Bathing Pool, 1 mile Fishing in Stream intersecting the property.

#### A VERY FINE ESTATE OF 126 ACRES FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE

Agents : WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W.1. (Tel. : Gros. 1441); and JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Cirencester. (Tel. : 334-5.)

### LOVELY PART OF SOUTH DEVON



#### BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED HOUSE

High up with magnificent views and set within its delightful old gardens and estate of 33 acres. Bordering a favourite river. 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, complete offices. Electric light. Central heating. Garages. Stabling. Cottages. Grounds and Woods of exceptional charm. Walled Garden. Boathouse and Landing Stage. The property has been the subject of great expenditure, and is in first class order.

#### TO BE LET FURNISHED OR MIGHT BE SOLD

Agents : WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

Telephone :  
Grosvenor 2252  
(6 lines)

## CONSTABLE & MAUDE

2, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

### WILTS. ON THE BORDERS OF HANTS

#### EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE ESTATE IN MINIATURE

2 halls, 4 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Every convenience and comfort. Garage. Stabling. 2 Lodges. Lovely gardens and park.

#### ABOUT 84 ACRES FREEHOLD FOR SALE

CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

### F FARMS FOR INVESTMENT

DISTRICT	AREA	INCOME	PRICE
OXON	170	£170	£4,350
NORTHANTS	180	£290	£5,500
WARWICK	228	£400	£40 per acre
SOMERSET	93	£320	£8,000
DEVON	105	£190	£4,500

### IDEAL FOR LARGE COMMERCIAL ORGANISATION

#### LARGE WEST COUNTRY MANSION

containing about 40 bedrooms and ample bathrooms. Several cottages.

#### ABOUT 200 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE PRIVATELY, WITH THE FURNITURE.

Agents : CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

### COTSWOLDS ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN HOUSE

on the outskirts of a village. 7 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiard room, usual offices. Central heating throughout. Main electric light. Water and drainage.

LODGE. GARAGE. 2 COTTAGES.

#### ABOUT 7 ACRES FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Agents : CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

### CHILTERN HILLS

500ft. up, easily accessible to London and designed by Mr. P. Morley Horder.

#### AN EXCELLENT MODERN HOUSE

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms (5 basins), 2 bathrooms.

All main services. Central heating. Garage.

Delightful Gardens with Tennis Court and Orchard.

2 ACRES PRICE £5,000

CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.



## JACKSON STOPS & STAFF

Survey House, 15, Bond Street, LEEDS 1 (Tel. : 31269); and at London, Northampton, Yeovil, Cirencester and Dublin.



### MOST BEAUTIFUL POSITION IN WHARFEDALE

LEEDS 8 MILES. HARROGATE 8 MILES.

HUNTING WITH BRAMHAM MOOR.

### RAWDON HILL, ARTHINGTON

IN SUPERB CONDITION.

OAK-PANELLED HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 10 PRINCIPAL AND SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 2 DRESSING ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS.

All Services.

PICTURESQUE GARDENS.

EN TOUT CAS TENNIS COURT. LODGE. CHAUFFEUR'S HOUSE.

2 COTTAGES. OUTBUILDINGS IN PERFECT ORDER.

#### FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 20 ACRES

For particulars apply, JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Survey House, 15, Bond Street, Leeds 1 (Tel. : 31269); and at London, Northampton, Yeovil, Cirencester and Dublin.



(JACKSON STOPS & STAFF's advertisements continued on page xii.)

#### FOR INVESTMENT.

SURREY (2 miles market town).—HOUSE containing 8 rooms and offices. Stabling and outbuildings. 4 Cottages. Land about 60 ACRES, principally pasture. Estimated gross yearly rental, £350 per annum. PRICE £4,750. Owner's Agents : GERMAN ADDY & CO., Farnham. (Phone: 5283-4.)

L  
LEICESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING COUNTIES  
HOLLOWAY, PRICE & CO.,  
(ESTABLISHED 1809.)  
MARKET HARBOUROUGH.  
LAND AGENTS, AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT. VALUATIONS FOR PROBATE.

DEVON (9 miles from Torquay).—Delightfully situated MODERN COTTAGE, with 24 (or 53) Acres. Quite rural but all conveniences. Main electricity; main water telephone; "Aga" cooker. Modern cowhouse (Willmott's) and other farm buildings. A charming little property with lovely views. PRICE £4,000 FREEHOLD.—HEWITT and CO., 235, High Street, Exeter. (A. 1039.)

Telegrams:  
"Wood, Agents, Weso,  
London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telephone No.:  
Mayfair 6341 (10 lines).

## SOMERSET

BETWEEN TAUNTON AND HONITON.

### THIS SOLIDLY BUILT HOUSE

Stands high and commands lovely views.

15 BEDROOMS, 2 DRESSING ROOMS, 5 BATHROOMS, BILLIARDS  
AND 3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

GARAGES AND STABLING.

Main electric light. Central heating.

3 COTTAGES.

CHAIN OF 7 LAKES.

GOLF AND HUNTING.

TROUT FISHING.

383 ACRES

Price and full particulars of JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (71,899.)



### UNFURNISHED LEASE FOR DISPOSAL

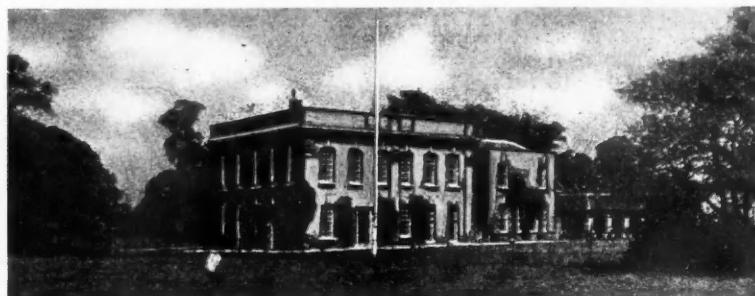
## FAVOURITE PART OF HERTFORDSHIRE

RECENTLY RESTORED AND IN SPLENDID ORDER

Only 25 miles by road from London,  
in a lovely position adjoining 2 large  
private estates.

### THIS BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

WITH PANELLED ROOMS  
AND OTHER FEATURES OF  
THE PERIOD.



10 bedrooms. 4 bathrooms.  
4 reception rooms.

Main electric light.  
Central heating.

STABLING. GARAGE.  
3 COTTAGES.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS  
AND PARKLAND.

In all about  
50 ACRES

Recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (40,256.)

## F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone: REGENT 2481.

### A BARGAIN IN SOUTH DEVON. ONLY £2,950

LOVELY SITUATION; WELL AWAY FROM DANGER ZONES.

A COUNTRY RETREAT WHICH SHOULD BE PERFECTLY SAFE

#### A CHARMING OLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE

in excellent condition and equipped with modern  
conveniences; 4 reception, 7 bedrooms, bathroom and  
dressing room.

Electric lighting from own plant.

Double garage, stabling.

THE GARDENS are beautiful because of their natural  
formation, are profusely wooded, and there is a  
wonderful array of rhododendron plantations bordered  
by pretty streams and waterfalls. The total area  
is about

6½ ACRES. FREEHOLD £2,950

Adjacent to Dartmoor and within easy reach of Totnes  
and Torquay.



Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

### IN A CHARMING OLD BERKSHIRE TOWN

within easy reach of OXFORD.

#### A GENUINE OLD GEORGIAN RESIDENCE



Good hall, dining room 22ft. by 18ft., drawing room 26ft. by 15ft., morning room, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 2 tiled bathrooms.

Main drainage.  
Coy's electricity and water.

Secluded old walled-in gardens.

Early possession.  
Freehold £3,500

Including the benefit of 100 years lease of a separate tenancy let off at £60 per annum.

### ON A SURREY GOLF COURSE

Safe and rural situation. 40 minutes by rail from London.

#### CHARMING WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE

with central heating,  
fitted wash basins in  
every bedroom, and  
all main services  
connected.

3 reception, 7 bed-  
rooms, 2 bathrooms.

2 GARAGES.

Tennis lawn and  
lovely gardens with  
gateway to links.

1 Acre Freehold

Positive  
Bargain at  
£3,100



Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1.  
(Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel.: Regent 2481.

(F. L. MERCER & CO.'s advertisements continued on page ix.)



## JACKSON STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.I.  
AND AT NORTHAMPTON, CIRENCESTER, LEEDS AND YEOVIL.

TEL.:  
MAYFAIR 3316.



### SURREY



PERFECTLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE IN LOVELY POSITION

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 9 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, EXCELLENT DOMESTIC OFFICES.

*Central heating.*

*Co.'s water, gas and electric light.*

*Modern drainage.*

GARAGES. 2 COTTAGES. LODGE

TENNIS COURT. SWIMMING POOL. STABLING. FARM BUILDINGS

22 ACRES IN ALL. PRICE £11,000

Full particulars of JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.I. (Tel.: Mayfair 3316) (6262.)

### DORSET

NEAR SMALL TOWN. 25 MILES INLAND.

#### COMFORTABLE GEORGIAN-STYLE HOUSE

17 BEDROOMS, (including STAFF), 4 BATHROOMS, 4 RECEPTION ROOMS, 2 HALLS, ETC.

261 ACRES

FARMSTEAD. 6 COTTAGES. (Farm and 3 Cottages let at £180 p.a.)

#### FREEHOLD FOR SALE OR TO LET FURNISHED

MODERATE PRICE OR RENT.



Agents: JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 29, Princes Street, Yeovil. (Tel.: 1066.)

### SHROPSHIRE

1 MILE FROM LUDLOW.



#### REALLY DELIGHTFUL ORIGINAL JACOBEAN HOUSE

4 RECEPTION ROOMS, 9 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS.

*Main water and gas.*

*Electricity.*

3 COTTAGES. DOUBLE GARAGE AND STUDIO.

FISHING WITH FAMOUS WEIR INCLUDED.

PRICE £6,500 WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS, Castle Street, Cirencester. (Tel.: 334/5.) (3223.)

(A.D. 1604)

### FAMOUS COTSWOLD VILLAGE

#### BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORICAL COTSWOLD RESIDENCE

5 RECEPTION ROOMS, 9 PRINCIPAL BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS, 4 MAIDS' ROOMS, MODERN OFFICES.

*Main water, drainage and electricity.*

*Central heating.*

GARAGES for 4 cars.

6 ACRES OF LOVELY GARDENS AND PADDOCK.

Most economical of upkeep.

AN IDEAL SETTING FOR A DELIGHTFUL HOME.

FOR SALE ON MOST REASONABLE TERMS



Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS, Castle Street, Cirencester. (Tel.: 334/5.) (5571.)

(JACKSON STOPS & STAFF's advertisements continued on page x.)

## ESTATE

Phone: Ken. 1490.  
Grams: "Estate  
Harrods, London."

## HARRODS

KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE,  
62/64, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1

## OFFICES

West Byfleet  
and Haslemere.  
Riviera Offices.

## ESTATE

KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE,  
62/64, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1

## OFFICES

West Byfleet  
and Haslemere.  
Riviera Offices.

## SUNNY SOUTH DEVON

*Sheltered position. 400ft. up. Retired situation. Away from Industrial or Military targets*

## FASCINATING ELIZABETHAN-STYLE RESIDENCE

with lofty rooms and modernised at enormous expense.

Large oak-panelled lounge with sprung dance floor, 4 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, 5 de luxe bathrooms, model offices.

Efficient central heating. Co.'s electric light.  
Excellent water.

Garage. Lodge. Useful Outbuildings.

## TROPICAL PLEASURE GROUNDS

with tennis and other lawns, orange, lemon and citron fruit trees, natural woodland walks, together with miniature park.

In all nearly 90 ACRES

## FOR SALE FREEHOLD

OR WOULD BE LET FURNISHED ON ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS.

Further details of the Agents: HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 806.)

c.4



## DORSET AND SOMERSET BORDERS

*In most delightful country, 5 miles from Main Line Station and 5 from first-class Educational Centre.*

c.2

## RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

including a dignified STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE, 400ft. up, facing South, commanding fine and distant views.

Lounge hall, 3 reception, billiard room, 11 or 16 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Excellent water. Electric light. Central heating.

GARAGE, STABLING, FARMERY AND 7 COTTAGES.

## MATURED GARDENS AND GROUNDS

Pasture, arable and woodland.

In all about 264 ACRES



## FOR SALE FREEHOLD

FARM LET OFF, BUT VACANT POSSESSION OF REMAINDER.

Inspected and strongly recommended by HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 809.)

## OVER THE BROW OF THE CHILTERNNS

*Equi-distant between Wendover and Aylesbury, 3 miles village.*

c.2

## FASCINATING ELIZABETHAN COTTAGE



3 reception, with open fireplaces, 3 bedrooms (2 fitted basins), bathroom.

Main water and electricity.

Garage (2), Stabling (5), and other outbuildings.

Small ornamental gardens and some grass fields; in all

## ABOUT 15 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 809.)

## NEAR BEAUTIFUL SURREY DOWNS

*High and healthy neighbourhood in one of the choicest parts of Surrey, about 4 miles from Boxhill.*

c.3

## CHARMING LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE



## PRICE £2,250 FREEHOLD FOR QUICK SALE

HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 807.)

## NORTHANTS BORDERS

c.3

## GREAT BARGAIN. £1,500 FREEHOLD

## PICTURESQUE XVIIth CENTURY RESIDENCE



4 reception, 7 bedrooms, bathroom.

Electric light and modern conveniences.

Garage. Stabling.

## OLD-WORLD GARDEN

with tennis lawn, also meadow; in all

## ABOUT 4 ACRES

HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 807.)



## ABOUT 2 ACRES. EARLY POSSESSION

HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 806.)

**BOURNEMOUTH:**  
ERNEST FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
E. STODDART FOX, P.A.S.I., F.A.I.  
H. INSLEY-FOX, P.A.S.I., A.A.I.  
R. ALEC. HAMBRO.

**FOX & SONS**  
LAND AGENTS  
BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON

**SOUTHAMPTON:**  
ANTHONY B. FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.  
T. BRIAN COX, P.A.S.I., A.A.I.  
**BRIGHTON:**  
A. KILVINGTON, F.A.L.P.A.

**SOUTH HAMPSHIRE**

*Close to the New Forest. About 10 miles from Bournemouth. In delightful wooded surroundings.*

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**

**THIS VERY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE**

fitted with all conveniences and comforts.

5 BEDROOMS, 2 DRESSING ROOMS, WELL-FITTED BATHROOM, LOUNGE HALL,

3 SITTING ROOMS (one 30ft. by 20ft.) GOOD DOMESTIC OFFICES.

GARAGE for 2 cars.



For particulars, price and rental, apply FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

ON THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE EXECUTORS OF THE LATE LADY CHAMBERLAIN.

**BEAULIEU, HAMPSHIRE**

TO BE LET FURNISHED FOR A MINIMUM PERIOD OF ONE YEAR.

**THIS CHARMING MODERN HALF-TIMBERED RESIDENCE**

expensively and beautifully furnished, thus affording the a-m-e of comfort.

4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, DRAWING AND DINING ROOMS.

LIBRARY, SITTING ROOM, SERVANTS' SITTING ROOM.

KITCHEN, with "Esse" cooker.



Central heating. Electric lighting. Gas. Main water and drainage.

**OAK PANELLING AND FLOORS.**

**SECLUDED GROUNDS**  
with lawns, walled-in garden; the whole extending to about

**1 ACRE**

**THE RESIDENCE IS DELIGHTFULLY FURNISHED WITH ANTIQUES AND WOULD BE LET IF DESIRED.**

**DORSET**

*7 miles from Bournemouth. In very pleasant surroundings.*

Well away from main road.

Company's electric light.

"Aga" Cooker.

Central heating throughout.

All fittings are of the best quality.

DOUBLE GARAGE (with washdown).

Smaller Garage.

**THE GROUNDS.**

are inexpensive to maintain, and include herbaceous borders, terraces, small kitchen garden. The greater portion of the land is left in its natural wooded state. The whole extends to an area of about

**5 ACRES**



Full particulars and price can be obtained of the Agents, FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

**SUSSEX**

*7 miles from Midhurst. 6 miles from Petersfield.*

A VERY DELIGHTFUL PROPERTY SITUATED IN PLEASANT SURROUNDINGS AND HAVING EXCEPTIONALLY FINE VIEWS FROM ALL THE PRINCIPAL ROOMS.

**THE RESIDENCE**

has half-timbered elevations and is soundly constructed, the accommodation arranged so as to obtain the maximum amount of sun.

5 bedrooms, boxroom, fitted bathroom, entrance and dining room (having fine carved oak panelling), lounge (with magnificent oak panelling), morning room, kitchen and complete domestic offices.



Garages. Store-rooms. Potting sheds. Summer house.

Company's electric lighting.

The GARDENS and GROUNDS are a particularly charming feature of the property and have been most cleverly laid out and are easily maintained. There are a wide expanse of lawns, rockery (with lily pond and fountain), kitchen garden, orchard and paddock; the whole extending to an area of about

**6½ ACRES**

For particulars and price apply to FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth, who have inspected and can thoroughly recommend the property to prospective purchasers.

**FOX & SONS, HEAD OFFICE, 44-52, OLD CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH (11 BRANCH OFFICES)**

# “COUNTRY LIFE” HOTEL REGISTER

<b>LONDON</b>	<b>CORNWALL—continued.</b>	<b>HAMPSHIRE</b>	<b>NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</b>	<b>SUSSEX—continued.</b>	<b>SCOTLAND—continued.</b>
ALMOND'S HOTEL. Clifford Street, W.1.	ST. IVES. TREGENNA CASTLE HOTEL.	BROCKENHURST. FOREST PARK HOTEL.	FOTHERINGHAY. MANOR FARM COUNTRY HOTEL.	HASTINGS. QUEEN'S HOTEL.	<b>FIFESHIRE</b>
BAILEY'S HOTEL. Clester Road, S.W.7.	ST. MAWES. SHIP AND CASTLE HOTEL.	BOURNEMOUTH. BRANKSOME TOWER HOTEL.	KETTERING. GEORGE HOTEL.	HOVE. NEW IMPERIAL HOTEL.	ST. ANDREWS. THE GRAND HOTEL.
ASIL STREET HOTEL. Knightsbridge, S.W.1.	TINTAGEL. KING ARTHUR'S CASTLE HOTEL.	CANFORD CLIFFS HOTEL.	PETERBOROUGH. ANGEL HOTEL.	DUDLEY HOTEL.	
BRKELEY HOTEL. Piccadilly, W.1.	<b>CUMBERLAND</b>	CARLTON HOTEL.	BULL HOTEL.	LEWES. WHITE HART HOTEL.	
BROWN'S HOTEL. Lower Street, W.1.	CARLISLE. CROWN AND MITRE HOTEL.	GRAND HOTEL.		PETWORTH. SWAN HOTEL.	
ADOGAN HOTEL. Lane Street, S.W.1.	GLENRIDDING, PENRITH. ULLSWATER HOTEL.	HIGHCLIFFE HOTEL.		ROTTINGDEAN. TUDOR CLOSE HOTEL.	
RLTON HOTEL. all Mall, S.W.1.	KESWICK (English Lakes). ROYAL OAK HOTEL.	NORFOLK HOTEL.		ST. LEONARDS. ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL.	
VENDISH HOTEL. Emyia Street, W.1.	LOWESWATER. SCALE HILL HOTEL.	<b>BOURNEMOUTH (Sandbanks).</b> THE HAVEN HOTEL.		SUSSEX HOTEL.	ONICH. CREAG-DHU HOTEL.
BRIDGE'S HOTEL. Brook Street, W.1.	<b>DEVONSHIRE</b>	LIPHOOK. ROYAL ANCHOR HOTEL.		WYCH CROSS (Forest Row). THE ROEBUCK HOTEL.	PORTREE. PORTREE HOTEL.
ONNAUGT HOTEL. Carlos Place, W.1.	BANTHAM (near Kingsbridge). THE SLOOP INN.	LYNDHURST. CROWN HOTEL.			
ORCHESTER HOTEL. Park Lane, W.1.	BARNSTAPLE. IMPERIAL HOTEL.	NEW MILTON. GRAND MARINE HOTEL.		<b>INVERNESS-SHIRE</b>	
DRING HOTEL. Rosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.	BELSTONE (DARTMOOR). CHERRY TREES.	BARTON-ON-SEA.		CARRBRIDGE. CARRBRIDGE HOTEL.	
P. WESTERN ROYAL HOTEL. addington.	BOVEY TRACEY. BLENNIUM GUEST HOUSE.	ODHAM. GEORGE HOTEL.		INVERNESS. CALEDONIAN HOTEL.	
ROSENOVOR HOTEL. uckingham Palace Road, S.W.	BUDLEIGH SALERTON. ROSEMOULIN HOTEL.	SOUTHSEA. SANDRINGTON HOTEL.		ONICH. CREAG-DHU HOTEL.	
ROSENOVOR HOUSE. ark Lane, W.1.	CULLOMPTON. CULLOMPTON HOTEL.	STONEY CROSS. (near Lyndhurst) COMPTON ARMS HOTEL.		PORTREE. PORTREE HOTEL.	
OWARD HOTEL. Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.2.	DARTMOUTH. RALEIGH HOTEL.	WINCHESTER. ROYAL HOTEL.			
PERIAL HOTEL. KESWELL SQUARE.	EXETER. ROUGEMONT HOTEL.	<b>HEREFORDSHIRE</b>		<b>KINCARDINESHIRE</b>	
ANGHAM HOTEL. ortland Place, W.1.	HARTLAND. QUAY HOTEL.	HEREFORD. HOP POLE HOTEL.		BANCHORY. TOR-NA-COILLE HOTEL.	
ARK LANE HOTEL. Piccadilly, W.1.	HAYTOR, NEWTON ABBOT. MOORLAND HOTEL.	ROSS-ON-WYE (near). MOUNT CRAIG HOTEL.			
MCCADDILLY HOTEL. Piccadilly, W.1.	HORN CROSS (N. DEVON). HOOPS INN.	ROSS-ON-WYE. ROYAL HOTEL.			
BITZ HOTEL. Piccadilly, W.1.	KINGSWEAR (S. DEVON). RIVERSEA PRIVATE HOTEL.	<b>OXFORDSHIRE</b>			
SAVOY HOTEL. Strand, W.C.2.	SHANAHAN (near Teignmouth). THE ROUND HOUSE HOTEL.	MINSTER LOVELL. THE OLD SWAN.			
SOUTH KENSINGTON HOTEL. South Kensington, S.W.7.	SIDMOUTH. FORTFIELD HOTEL.	OXFORD. RANDOLPH HOTEL.			
WALDORF HOTEL. Aldwych, W.C.2.	SEATON (S. DEVON). CHATEAU TRIANON.	<b>SHROPSHIRE</b>			
WASHINGTON HOTEL. Curzon Street, W.1.	SHALDON (near Teignmouth). THE ROUND HOUSE HOTEL.	CHURCH STRETTON. THE HOTEL.			
WILTON HOTEL. Victoria, S.W.1.	SOUTH BOVEY (near Moretonhampstead). MANOR HOUSE HOTEL.	<b>WESTMORLAND</b>			
<b>BEDFORDSHIRE</b>	NORTHAM—Westward Ho! HOTELS.	AMBLESIDE. THE QUEEN'S HOTEL.			
BEDFORD. SWAN HOTEL.	PAIGONTON. REDCLIFFE HOTEL.	GRASMERE. PRINCE OF WALES LAKE HOTEL.			
PLETSOE THE FALCON INN.	SEATON (S. DEVON). CHATEAU TRIANON.	WINDERMERE. LANGDALE CHASE HOTEL.			
EATON SOCON. Ye OLDE WHITE HORSE.	SHALDON (near Teignmouth). THE ROUND HOUSE HOTEL.	<b>WILTSHIRE</b>			
<b>BERKSHIRE</b>	SIDMOUTH. FORTFIELD HOTEL.	EAST EVERLEIGH. MARLBOROUGH.			
ABINGDON. CROWN AND THISTLE HOTEL.	KNOWLE HOTEL, LTD.	THE CROWN HOTEL.			
ASCOT. BERVYSTEDE HOTEL.	VICTORIA HOTEL.	SALISBURY. OLD GEORGE HOTEL.			
RAYON-ON-THAMES. THE HIND'S HEAD HOTEL.	CEDAR SHADE HOTEL.	TAUNTON. CASTLE HOTEL.			
READING. GEORGE HOTEL.	<b>TORQUAY.</b> DEAN-PRIOR HOTEL, St. Marks Road.	<b>WORCESTERSHIRE</b>			
SONNING. WHITE HART HOTEL.	GRANDE HOTEL.	BROADWAY. DORMY GUEST HOUSE.			
WINDSOR. The "White Hart," WINDSOR LTD.	LIVERMEAD HOUSE HOTEL.	SCARBOROUGH. ROYAL HOTEL.			
<b>CAMBRIDGESHIRE</b>	PALACE HOTEL.	SOUTH STANLEY (near Harrogate).			
CAMBRIDGE. LION HOTEL.	TORBAY HOTELS, LTD., Torbay Road.	RED LION INN.			
UNIVERSITY ARMS HOTEL.	WOOLACOMBE BAY (DEVON). WOOLACOMBE BAY HOTEL.	YORK. YOUNG'S HOTEL, HIGH PETER-GATE.			
WHITTESFORD. RED LION HOTEL.	VELVERTON. MOORLAND LINKS HOTEL.	<b>WALES</b>			
<b>CHESHIRE</b>	<b>DORSETSHIRE</b>	CAPEL CURIG. TYN-Y-COED HOTEL.			
HECTER. GROSVENOR HOTEL, Eastgate Street.	CHARMOUTH. THE COURT.	DOLGELLEY. GOLDEN LION ROYAL HOTEL.			
TOYLAKE. ROYAL HOTEL.	SHAFTESBURY. COOMBE HOUSE HOTEL.	LLANGOLLEN. THE HAND HOTEL.			
<b>CORNWALL</b>	SHERBORNE. DIGBY HOTEL.	SAUNDERSFOOT. TENBY. ST. BRIDES HOTEL.			
DE. GRENVILLE HOTEL (BUDE) LTD.	STUDLAND BAY. KNOLL HOUSE HOTEL.	<b>WIGTOWNSHIRE</b>			
MOUHT. OUTHOUT HOTEL.	<b>DURHAM</b>	STRANRAER. AULD KING'S ARMS.			
LORD PASSAGE (near Falmouth).	ROYAL COUNTY HOTEL.	<b>YORKSHIRE</b>			
PERRO, LOOE. IGHTS & CROSSES INN.	<b>ESSEX</b>	BOROUGHBRIDGE. THREE ARROWS HOTEL.			
<b>GLoucestershire</b>	FRINTON-ON-SEA. BEACH HOTEL.	CATTERICK BRIDGE. THE BRIDGE HOUSE HOTEL.			
GLoucester. NEW COUNTY HOTEL, Southgate Street.	<b>MONMOUTH</b>	SCARBOROUGH. ROYAL HOTEL.			
TE FERRY BOAT INN.	LLANGIBBY. COURT BLEDDYN.	SOUTH STANLEY (near Harrogate).			
PERRO, LOOE. IGHTS & CROSSES INN.	<b>NORFOLK</b>	WATERVILLE (Co. KERRY). BAY VIEW HOTEL.			
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	BLAKENEY. BLAKENEY HOTEL.	KINGSWOOD (WARREN). KINGSWORLD PARK GUEST HOUSE.			
<b>ARGYLLSHIRE</b>	CROMER. GRAND HOTEL.	FEASLAKE (near Guildford). HURTFORD HOTEL.			
KIMELFORD. CUILFAIL HOTEL.	HOLBEACH. CHEQUERS HOTEL.	SANDERSTEAD. SELSDON PARK HOTEL.			
LOCH AWE. LOCH AWE HOTEL.	LINCOLN. WHITE HART HOTEL.	WEYBRIDGE. OATLANDS PARK HOTEL.			
LORD PASSAGE (near Falmouth).	STAMFORD. GEORGE HOTEL.	WIMBLEDON. SOUTHDOWN HALL HOTEL.			
PERRO, LOOE. IGHTS & CROSSES INN.	<b>SUSSEX</b>	<b>IRELAND (EIRE)</b>			
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>MONMOUTH</b>	ENNISTYMON (Co. CLARE). FALLS HOTEL.			
<b>ARGYLLSHIRE</b>	LLANGIBBY. COURT BLEDDYN.	LOUGH ARROW (Co. SLIGO). HOLLYBROOK HOUSE HOTEL.			
KIMELFORD. CUILFAIL HOTEL.	<b>NORFOLK</b>	LUCAN (Co. DUBLIN). SPA HOTEL.			
LOCH AWE. LOCH AWE HOTEL.	BLAKENEY. BLAKENEY HOTEL.	WATERVILLE (Co. KERRY). BUTLER ARMS HOTEL.			
LORD PASSAGE (near Falmouth).	CROMER. GRAND HOTEL.	<b>NORTHERN IRELAND</b>			
PERRO, LOOE. IGHTS & CROSSES INN.	HUNSTANTON. LE STRANGE ARMS GOLF LINKS HOTEL.	BANGOR (Co. DOWN). ROYAL HOTEL.			
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>GLoucestershire</b>	BELFAST. GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL.			
<b>ARGYLLSHIRE</b>	TEWKESBURY. ROYAL POLE HOTEL.	PORTRUSH. SEABANK HOTEL.			
KIMELFORD. CUILFAIL HOTEL.	<b>Gloucestershire</b>	<b>SCOTLAND</b>			
LOCH AWE. LOCH AWE HOTEL.	GLoucester. NEW COUNTY HOTEL, Southgate Street.	<b>SCOTLAND</b>			
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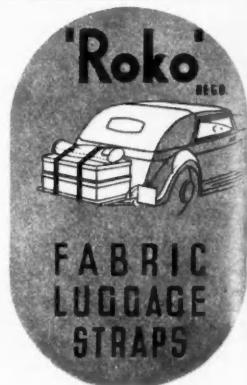
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# COUNTRY LIFE

SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 1941

Vol. LXXXIX. No. 2306



## THE MARQUESS AND MARCHIONESS OF HUNTRY AT THEIR WEDDING

The Marchioness of Huntly, formerly the Hon. Pamela Berry, is the only daughter of Lord Kemsley. The Marquess, who is the twelfth of his line and the Premier Marquess of Scotland, is serving with the Gordon High'anders. The photograph shows them leaving the church after the ceremony, which took place in the country at the bride's home, Farnham Royal, Bucks

# COUNTRY LIFE

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**POSTAL CHARGES.**—The Editor reminds correspondents and contributors that any communications requiring a reply must be accompanied by the requisite stamps. Notice is given that MSS. submitted will not be returned unless this condition is complied with.

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## THE USE OF GRASSLAND

**B**EFORE the war more than two-thirds of our agricultural land was in grass. Grassland, therefore, must obviously play an important part in any attempts to increase production of food at home. The main policy so far followed has been to turn grass into arable land, and the Ministry of Agriculture has advocated that farmers should not be chary of ploughing up even their best pastures. In letters to the Press, Lord Dawson of Penn and Lord Bledisloe have recently criticised this policy on the ground that it imperils our milk supplies. Mr. W. S. Mansfield, on the other hand, has supported it strongly, maintaining that arable land produces more food per acre than pasture, especially for winter keep.

With present farming methods there is little doubt that Mr. Mansfield is right: the necessity for much of our pasture's coming under the plough to produce food for both human beings and stock is unchallengeable. Even with the plough-up policy, unless there are exceptional weather conditions, there will still be plenty of grass in the spring and early summer. But by managing our pastures differently they could be made much more productive, and some could easily equal arable land even in the production of winter keep. In recent years the potentialities of grassland have been insufficiently appreciated, for too many farmers have regarded it mainly as ground for exercising their herds while the milk yields were maintained on imported concentrates. This wasteful policy is no longer possible, and our diminished acreage must now be made to produce more than our pre-war pastures.

Unfortunately, the yield of grass depends greatly on the weather, for in wet years it can be more than twice as much as in dry. In spite of this uncontrollable factor, much could be done to increase returns by manuring and by repeated cuttings of young grass. Increases in yield of over 400 per cent. have sometimes been obtained by the addition of 2cwt. of sulphate of ammonia per acre, and increases of 40-60 per cent. are the average. The value of repeated cuttings of young grass, which can be compared with efficient grazing, lies in the greater nutritive value of this product compared with hay. Young grass is rich in protein, sugars and carotene, the forerunner of Vitamin A—virtues that make it the ideal food for dairy cows. In the processes of ripening before hay can be made most of these virtues are dissipated; the sugars are replaced by fibre, and the protein falls to less than one-quarter. With the loss of imported feeding-stuffs the retention of these valuable constituents of young grass for winter feeding is essential.

This can be done either by artificial drying of young grass or by ensilage. Artificial drying is probably better, but it is expensive, and there are too few drying plants to cope with more than a small part of the 5,000,000 or so acres usually made into hay. Ensilage, however, has unlimited possibilities, for grass ensilage can be made in field silos anywhere at a reasonable cost. Tests have shown that cows can give up to five gallons of milk a day on nothing but grass ensilage, whereas on hay alone they can only maintain condition. An acre of pasture, properly cut and manured, can give 5-6 tons of silage, equivalent in food value to a ton of oats, which is about the yield that could be expected if the land were ploughed. In addition, the pasture would also give some valuable grazing in early spring and autumn, so that it would be possible for the land to yield less food if ploughed than if left as grass and properly managed. In wet years, when yield is high and hay-making difficult, ensilage has additional obvious advantages. It must be stressed, however, that silage made from spoilt hay is a poor thing compared with that made from young grass.

With supplies of meat and cheese so scanty, our greatest dietetic danger seems to be a protein shortage. Our pastures

could probably do much to overcome this, for with grass cut young, up to half a ton of protein can be obtained per acre, the highest return of any crop. This is protein of first-class nutritive value, much superior to that in cereal grains. In feeding this to animals to produce human food there is great wastage. Animals vary in their efficiency in transforming feeding-stuffs, but even the most efficient dairy cow needs 5lb. to produce 1lb. of human food. Grass as such cannot be eaten in any quantity by human beings because of its high content of indigestible fibre, but it is highly probable that proteins valuable for human food could be extracted from young grass in considerable quantities. This could be incorporated in soups, sausages and bread to supplement our meat and cheese supplies. If as much as half of the proteins were extracted for such purposes, the remainder of the grass would still make silage of considerably higher feeding value for stock than hay.

Few of us will relish the thought of eating grass protein instead of our accustomed meat and cheese, and the making of silage instead of hay will fail to appeal to many farmers. As a beleaguered nation, however, the only aim worth consideration to-day must be to provide a diet that is sufficient to keep everyone in health. In ensuring this aim we may be unable to afford the luxuries of outmoded agricultural practices or of pandering to food likes and dislikes.

### A PECK OF MARCH DUST

**A**KING'S ransom, the proverbial worth of a dry crisp spell at this time of year, might be precisely valued this year. If the spring sowing and late ploughing can be got ahead under ideal conditions it is worth about an extra half-sack of corn to the acre. A sack of oats weighs about a hundredweight and a half, of barley two hundredweight, and of wheat two and a half hundredweight: so half a sack may be averaged at a hundredweight. There are between three and four million acres of spring corn under cultivation, so, if each produces an extra hundredweight, the gain will be from 150,000 to 200,000 tons of corn. That is worth between two and three million pounds. But the value to the country this year, in food, in shipping space, in gallant lives, cannot be expressed in money.

### LORD REITH TO CONSULT ARCHITECTS

**I**N his reply to the memorandum on Reconstruction submitted to him by the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Lord Reith revealed something of his plans. The memorandum was at some pains to emphasise that the modern architect is not concerned merely with the appearance of buildings. His training involves him at first hand with all the practical problems of planning, in regard to towns, transport, industry, housing, finance, and administration. He fully appreciates, on the other hand, that policy must precede planning, that planning must precede execution, and that every element in the building industry must be brought into co-operation. The memorandum therefore asked the Minister no longer to leave the profession of architecture out in the cold, but to give scope to its specialised personnel in the vital early stages of planning reconstruction. Lord Reith revealed, in his reply, what has not previously been "released," that he fully appreciates the great importance of architectural treatment in planning and that he has already had many private informal consultations with architects. The Minister is now setting up a consultative panel, on which architects are asked to serve together with other "persons of experience over the whole field." "I want them," said Lord Reith, "to be associated with us from the beginning." That is good news. Architects are all for getting ahead with the preparation of actual plans for reconstruction. The President of the R.I.B.A. has recently outlined some of the improvements of London that he and his colleagues would like to see, and Sir Edwin Lutyens's Royal Academy Committee are well forward with detailed plans for carrying out the recommendations of the Bressey Report. Lord Reith's panel is a first step to co-ordinating ideals and realities.

### NIBLICKS INTO PLOUGHSHARES

**T**HAT "golf is not agriculture" was once an often quoted maxim from Horace Hutchinson's first book, with the corollary suggested by some cynical farmer, "though both are games of chance." It no longer holds good to-day when the Minister of Agriculture wants to cut a few divots out of golf courses. Golfers ought not to and will not complain of the very moderate demands in the matter of ploughing, for it would seem that only some twenty acres or so are wanted from each course. A course is not all fairway; a fair proportion of it consists of "rough" or "tiger country," and it ought to be possible to provide a sufficiency of land for the plough from it. If in consequence there is rather more "out of bounds" and less manful delving with the niblick that is a small sacrifice to ask. It is, presumably, the inland course that will chiefly have to make it, for thin seaside ground which has man-made courses makes poor agricultural land. Yet the land on which some of these courses now stand has in older times clearly known the plough. Witness the name of one of the historic holes in golf, the thirteenth at Prestwick, the Sea Hedrig. That shows that once upon a time the Ayrshire ploughman turned his furrow there, and, incidentally, the same word gives his name to a famous character in *Old Mortality*. The second green at Hoylake, too, shows unmistakable signs of a past of ridge and furrow. The golfer will naturally hope that the course he loves may be spared as far as possible, but he will be ready for it to do its bit.



#### KEW GARDENS CELEBRATE THEIR CENTENARY AS A STATE INSTITUTION NEXT WEEK

But stretches of the famous lawns are being ploughed up for growing food. In the background of this scene is the Orangery built by Sir William Chambers for the Royal Botanic Garden, instituted by Princess Augusta in 1760

#### MILK AND CHEESE

CURDS and whey have been the constant burden of letters to the Editor of *The Times* for some time past. Most of us by now must know—if we did not know before—that an excellent “cream” cheese for the table can be easily and rapidly made by allowing milk to go sour and by pressing—and perhaps flavouring—the curd. Now comes Lord Woolton and puts the matter on a national scale. Britain is to go back to cheese-making. Farmers are to be allowed to make it once more, and manufacture on a large scale is to be revived. To make this possible our milk rations are to be cut and dreams of curds and whey and muslin bags must recede into the background. Housewives who were thinking in their despair of resorting to the old country ways will be able once more to “get it from the grocer.” Whether they will get very much seems doubtful. But there is one very real gain. The farm worker, if he cannot get back his onions at once, will at any rate get back his cheese. He is to have preference, and long before the harvest we shall see him again perform that marvel of dexterity whereby one hand and one knife act as table, carver and waiter and convey one loaf, one large onion and one hunk of cheese safely and in proper proportions to the inner regions. The epicures, of course, have been complaining of lack of flavour in their sauces. They might well learn a lesson in the fields.

#### TO MICHAEL, COMING HOME FROM THE SEA

The arch of heaven narrows,  
And night unbends the bow  
That shot those glittering arrows  
A millions years ago,  
Dark, dark, and still, that multitudinous burning,  
The giddy firmament forgets its turning,  
Only we quicken and live, at your returning.

No wind upon the mountains  
The unviewed snow dishevels,  
Time holds the tumbling fountains  
Fast frozen in their revels,  
The wild tumultuous seas forget to churn,  
The singing stars their harmony unlearn,  
Alone, we live and move, for you return.

P. H.

#### EATING GRASS

A PROPOS the reference in the leading article to grass as a direct source of human food, the idea seems so preposterous that people are inclined to dismiss it untested, and untasted. They accept the poet's estimate of the outstanding grass-eater of antiquity who

Said as he munched the unaccustomed food  
“It may be wholesome but it is not good.”

Even in this verdict the possible nutritional value of grass is admitted. Mr. J. R. B. Branson, sixty-nine year old athlete and sportsman brother of the judge, has recently asserted that properly chosen and prepared young grass clippings are not only highly nourishing but palatable. Considering that cows and sheep, not to mention rabbits and other graminivora, thrive best off the early bite, it must contain most, if not all, of the essentials of nourishment. Mr. Branson, who specialises in lawn mowings from his local golf links, maintains that his diet gives him renewed energy and health. Grass raw with garnishings of salad dressing or other vegetables and fruits, or dried grass cooked with herbs and bound with egg in fried balls, are some of his recipes. As usual, scientific opinion is divided on grass as a diet. The common-sense view would seem to be that man is not provided with the teeth suited to masticating the woody fibres of coarse or fully grown grasses, but that the tender young growths of the finer varieties, or a preparation of good grazing grasses, obviously must contain something of the vitamins and calories assimilated in more concentrated form in mutton, beef, milk, and the ordinary vegetables, and are therefore a valuable supplement of diet in a time of scarcity.

## A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

A Sartorial Subject—Stories in Stones—*Oi Makes me Mark*—The Battleground of Blood Sports

By MAJOR C. S. JARVIS

FROM time to time we hear criticism of the battle-dress uttered either by men who have to wear it and find it uncomfortable, or by their female relations who object to its appearance and its lack of smartness. It is certainly a very levelling garment for everyone, from a lieutenant-general to a lance-corporal, looks the same in it, and the level is a very low one indeed. It is almost impossible to avoid looking either like a poacher who has crawled out of a briar bush backwards, or a pouter pigeon in an advanced stage of that disease known as being crop-bound.

Having worn it myself as a Home Guard on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings, I congratulate myself that I am only a Home Guard and not a Regular who has to put it on every day, for it seems specially designed to expose the lumbar regions to the icy winds we have experienced this winter. When one comes to think of it, this is the first time in the history of the British race we have worn a uniform or garment that neglects to cover this very sensitive portion of the anatomy, if we except the Eton coat put upon small boys with a sinister object in view, and the mess jacket of the Army to counteract which the anteroom anti-lumbago fender was installed. On the whole, I give the inventor no marks at all for it, not even the customary five marks for neatness they used to award at my dame's school as a consolatory gesture when the main effort had been a complete failure.

I have heard many adverse comments on it, but the best one comes from Libya, where an Australian, with Antipodean aptitude for the right expression, said it made a man look like a kangaroo—all posterior and pockets.

\* \* \*

ON my many camel treks through the Libyan Desert I was usually accompanied by a most entertaining sheikh of the Aulad Ali tribe, who endeavoured to teach me the meanings of the various *alamat* we met on our way. Sometimes we would find on a conspicuous ridge three or four small heaps of stones in a row, and these, I was told, gave information about distances, the location of water, and the nature of the going. I was willing to believe all this, for I think it was true, but I suspect he was romancing when he told me with a grave face that some of the *alamat* went very much further than this and, to those who could read the signs correctly, told entertaining stories of previous adventures on the road. One of these, I gather, was of a highly Rabelaisian nature, for on seeing it he burst into wild shouts of laughter, and if a few small slabs and pebbles really told this highly improper story it tends to discredit Shakespeare's remark that there are “Sermons in stones and good in everything.”

The sheikh was a wonderful companion on a long, boring camel trek, and I never had a dull moment, though I knew he was what is called “a bad influence,” and that I was having my leg pulled. Some of his good stories in an anglicised setting go down very well on those occasions when the wine has gone round twice, and I believe that some of mine, which we are told emanate from the London Stock Exchange but more probably from the Long Bar at Shanghai, are very popular in the tents of the Aulad Ali when the third cup of coffee is served over the scrub fire. This third cup of coffee has the same significance in the Arab world as the second passing of the wine has in ours, for the two races have much in common.

\* \* \*

AT the local branch of one of our joint stock banks last week a smallholder presented one of those cheques, the endorsement of which over a twopenny stamp serves as a receipt from the payee for the sum in question. The charge of twopence for the stamp aroused his democratic ire, and when he had been persuaded that it was quite in order, and that in fact he was saving a penny as he would not have to send a receipt by post, he signed, but was most careful that no part of his signature blemished the stamp. This necessitated a second endorsement, and eventually he left the premises convinced that he had been cheated, if not by the bank, probably by the payer, and undoubtedly by the Government.

It recalled a somewhat similar scene some thirty years ago in Stuckey's Bank, Dorchester, when a small farmer came in with a bearer cheque he had just received for sale of stock at the market. In those days the current coin of the realm, golden sovereigns, was the usual method of payment, and cheques were regarded with Wessex suspicion—and Wessex suspicion is not easily eradicated.

The bank clerk told the farmer that the cheque would need endorsement, and then explained that endorsement meant the signing of his name.

“*Oi can't write*,” he said. “*Oi just makes me mark*.”

“Well, Mr. Chislett,” said the clerk, “that'll be quite all right. All you have to do is to bring in someone who knows you and who will witness your signature.”

So the farmer went outside and in a few minutes returned with a well known horse-dealer.

“*Ere be Tom Rideout of Wareham*,” he said. “*Everybody do know 'e, and if Tom witnesses me mark will that do?*”

“*Splendidly*,” said the clerk, and so the farmer made his cross on the back of the cheque and it was passed to Rideout.

“*Now*,” said the clerk, “*you just write your name against the cross and sign as a witness to Mr. Chislett*.”

“*Oi can't write*,” said Mr. Rideout. “*Oi makes me mark too, same as Mr. Chislett*.”

\* \* \*

THE trials and tribulations of a Country Notes author are many, for if he writes too enthusiastically about sport he is attacked by the anti-blood-sports people, and if he hints at the addiction of foxes

to poultry, or pheasants to farmers' corn, the fox-hunters and pheasant-shots arise in their might and wrath. One of the harshest letters I have received was from an out-and-out bird-lover who execrated me because I wrote of the damage caused by sparrow flocks at harvest time and gave them no credit for the caterpillars they are supposed to eat.

My view, for what it is worth, is that it is better not to get into the ring either in the defence of our own sports or the condemnation of those of others, because of the glasshouses in which we all live. One of the most vociferous opponents of shooting I have met was a woman who was a most hearty eater of game in any form. At lunch or dinner she would invariably scan the menu in search of grouse, partridge, woodcock or snipe, and then, with her mouth full, would condemn the people who shot them.

I am always sorry for the fox-hunter when he writes or speaks in defence of his sport, because he has to fight on two fronts, and this is always a risky undertaking. On one side marshalled against him are all the cruelty to animals and anti-blood-sport crusaders, who protest against his hunting and killing the fox; attacking him in the rear are the shooting-men and the poultry and other farmers, who say he does not kill nearly enough and that he gives the fox far too much law. His enemies are the people who regard the fox as a pretty little animal who should be protected against all human beings, and, on the other side, the inveterate fox-haters who would like to see the animal exterminated. While making out a good case against one of his antagonists he immediately forges a weapon that can be used against him by the other party.

## THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW

*Taken over as a State Institution on April 1, 1841, when Sir William Hooker was appointed as Director, The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, celebrate their centenary next week. During the last hundred years the story of the gardens, familiarly known to thousands as Kew, is one of continuous progress and development and of invaluable service to botany and horticulture at home and throughout the Empire*

By SIR ARTHUR W. HILL, K.C.M.G., F.R.S., Director of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

THE Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, which celebrate their centenary as a Government institution next week, have grown gradually to their present size and importance without having been conceived on any premeditated plan, and as they may be seen to-day, they are very largely the result of Sir William Jackson Hooker's foresight and enterprise.

The original Botanic Garden was started by Princess Augusta about the year 1760, and it was after her death, between the years 1772-1820, that so much was done by Sir Joseph Banks, working with George III, in building up the collections by sending out collectors all over the world, in developing the resources of the British possessions overseas, and training men to take charge of the various Colonial botanic gardens. On the deaths of George III and Sir Joseph Banks in 1820 the Gardens gradually fell into a state of neglect and their abandonment was seriously considered, but, thanks to the appointment of a committee, of which Dr. J. Lindley and Sir Joseph Paxton were the principal members, it was finally decided, in 1840, to take them over as a national institution. Sir William Hooker, then Regius Professor of

Botany at the University of Glasgow, was appointed Director, and took up his duties on April 1, 1841.

When Sir William was appointed, the Botanic Garden consisted of only 11 acres. In the following year, thanks to the interest of Queen Victoria, he was able to get 4 acres added near the present Main Gate, and two years afterwards Her Majesty granted him 47 acres out of the pleasure grounds, and in 1846, 14 further acres were added, which had formerly been the Royal Kitchen Garden. Thus, in the course of five years after his appointment the Garden under his charge had extended to 76 acres.

Not long after this he was given control over the pleasure grounds, which extended as far as the Old Deer Park and included the Queen's Cottage grounds (opened to the public in 1897). The whole area included in the Kew demesne now amounts to a little over 318 acres.

With the acquisition of the extra ground, Sir William Hooker at once set to work to develop the Royal Botanic Gardens. The 4 acres added near No. 1 House enabled the new entrance gates on Kew Green to be erected

from the designs of Decimus Burton, 1845, and with the other additions Sir William was able to put forward his proposals for the building of the Palm House, for which Decimus Burton was also the architect. The Palm House was erected in 1844-48 on a terrace built up partly on the site of the old pond. Nesfield was then called into consultation with regard to the general lay-out of the grounds. He designed the Broad Walk from the Old Orangery to the pond and its continuation at right angles, leading to the new Main Gates on Kew Green. The design was centred on the Palm House, and Nesfield embanked the pond on its present lines, and laid out the parterre between it and the Palm House, and also the formal semi-circular garden enclosed by a yew (now holly) hedge with conical holly bushes on the western side; and he opened up the three vistas into the pleasure grounds towards Sion House, the Pagoda, and the old cedar tree to the north-west.

Though the pleasure grounds were separated from the Botanic Gardens by a light iron fence, which ran from the Unicorn Gate in a semicircle round behind the Palm House to Kew Palace grounds, Sir William was also able to prepare schemes for their general development as part of the Gardens, since, fortunately, he had control over both areas.



SIR WILLIAM JACKSON HOOKER,  
K.H., F.R.S.

Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew,  
from 1841 to 1865

He had for some time put forward proposals for the erection of a house for New Holland plants, which resulted in the building of the Temperate House. This, like the Palm House, was designed by Decimus Burton, but only the central portion and the two octagons were completed in Sir William's time, in 1862, and it was not until 1899 that the second of the two wings—the northern one—was erected. The Temperate House is built on a terrace made up of the material excavated from the lake which was partly made by Sir William. As soon as he became Director he opened the Gardens to the public and did all he could to make them instructive and attractive to visitors.

Sir William came to Kew with very clear and definite ideas as to what a national botanic garden should include, and one of these was a museum for the display of the economic products derived from the vegetable kingdom. He was fortunate in being able to interest Queen Victoria in the project, and the Royal Fruit Store, the present Museum No. 2, was handed over to him for the purpose. This was quickly filled with his own collections and with many gifts from outside, and in 1847 the Museum was opened—the first Museum of Economic Botany to be founded in this country. So greatly did the collections in the Museum grow that it became necessary to erect a new building, and No. 1 Museum by the side of the pond was built in 1857. Later, a third museum was added when the old Oranger



(Left) THE INTERIOR OF THE LATEST WING OF THE HERBARIUM. Erected in 1932

became available, after the building of the Temperate House, and this was devoted to a display of colonial timbers in 1862. Since then, a further addition to the museum accommodation at Kew has been made in Cambridge Cottage, the present No. 4 Museum, which was handed over to the Gardens by King Edward VII in 1905.

A herbarium and a library, Sir William also pointed out, were essential constituents of a botanic garden, but Kew possessed neither. Sir William, however, generously placed his own extensive collection of herbarium specimens and books at the disposal of all visiting botanists. It was not until the year 1852, when the Director was given an official residence, that the present Herbarium building, which had formerly been the residence of the King of Hanover, was handed over for the Herbarium and Library. This building, it is interesting to recall, had previously been used by Sir Joseph Banks for his herbarium, which he bequeathed to the nation. This on his death was moved from Kew and formed the nucleus of the British Museum botanical collection. The Herbarium and Library have grown very greatly since Sir William's day; a wing was built out at the back of the original house by Sir Joseph Hooker in 1877, a second wing to the south was added during the directorship of Sir William Thiselton-Dyer in 1902-03, and the last extension—a large wing with four floors, parallel to the original one—was erected in 1932.

In addition to a herbarium, library and museums, a botanic garden should have a laboratory for physiological and other botanical investigations. This valuable addition was made in the years 1875-76, thanks to the munificence of Dr. T. J. Phillips Jodrell.

The gardens, therefore, have now all the necessary adjuncts for the conduct of the various branches of botanical work.

A very interesting addition was made to the Gardens in 1882, when Miss Marianne North presented her Gallery. She filled it with a remarkable collection of about 850 oil paintings of plants and flowers, which she had made all over the world between 1872 and 1885.

Mention may be made of a few other additions, which are of some historical interest, one being the Tropical Water-lily House, No. 15, which was built in 1852 for the display of the recently introduced *Victoria Regia* water lily. A rock garden was made by Sir Joseph Hooker in 1882, by the old ice well, where the hardy ferns are now planted, and he prophesied that this would no doubt soon become one of the most popular branches of modern horticulture. A few years later the need for a more extensive rock garden was put forward, and thanks to the presentation of the collections of Mr. George Joad of Wimbledon, the present Rock Garden, modelled on a dry Pyrenean valley, was built. This has been considerably extended, especially at the northern end, in recent years. The stone at the southern end is limestone, while the newer part at the northern end has been built up of sandstone. The Alpine House was erected in 1887—this being an innovation at the time; owing to its popularity it was enlarged in 1891 and re-built on a larger scale in 1939. Two other recent additions are of special note, one being the Sherman Hoyt Cactus House with its painted background of the

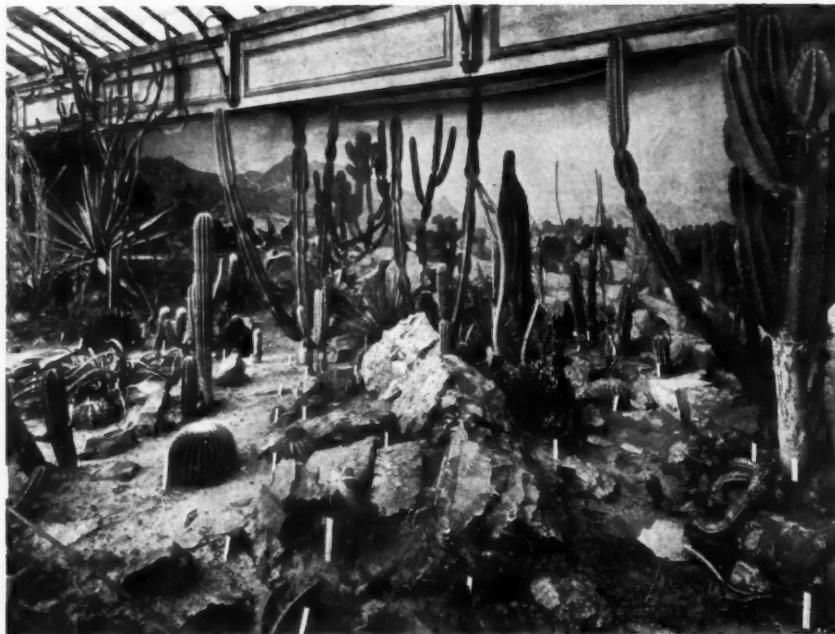


(Top) AN APRIL SCENE IN THE GARDENS

(Centre) A VIEW TOWARDS THE TEMPLE OVERLOOKING THE NATURAL ORDER BEDS

(Bottom) THE IRIS PAGEANT IN EARLY SUMMER

With the Museum of Economic Botany behind. This was formerly the Royal Fruit Store and was presented by Queen Victoria for house collections of economic plants—the first museum of its kind in the country



THE INTERIOR OF THE SHERMAN HOYT CACTUS HOUSE  
Arranged and planted to resemble the Californian desert



A VIEW DOWN THE MAIN WALK IN THE TEMPERATE HOUSE IN LATE WINTER. Forsythias and early flowering almonds and cherries margin the path



THE INTERIOR OF THE TROPICAL FERN HOUSE  
Where the effect of a tropical forest has been successfully reproduced

Mohave Desert, which was presented by Mrs. Sherman Hoyt and completed in 1932, and the South African Succulent House, presented in 1935 in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of King George V.

The lectures to the student gardeners were started by Sir William Hooker in 1859, and have been continued and much extended since then. Some forty-fifty student gardeners now come to Kew each year and spend two years completing their training in the practice and theory of horticulture, and pass out to take up important positions on botanic and private gardens and public appointments both at home and overseas.

One must allude to one or two of the more outstanding enterprises with which Kew has been concerned, since they have had such far-reaching effects throughout the Empire. One of these was the introduction of cinchona plants, the source of quinine, from the Andes of South America to the Sikkim Himalaya and to the Nilgiri Hills, India, in 1861; another was the introduction of Para rubber from Brazil to Ceylon and Malaya about 1876. Various other enterprises, less spectacular, but of considerable importance, have taken place since those times. One of the functions of Kew has been to send plants of economic and horticultural value to all parts of the Dominions and Colonies, where conditions might be suitable for their cultivation. Among the most recent of these enterprises has been the collection and sending of wild and cultivated bananas from the East to the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad, in connection with the work that is being done there in breeding immune types to combat the Panama Disease of bananas, which is so seriously affecting the banana industry.

Kew is not only a place for healthy recreation and enjoyment, but it is also a garden for serious botanical study, and every effort is made to render the collections as educational as may be possible, both in their arrangement and by appropriate labelling. The tropical epiphytic ferns, for instance, have been planted out on tree trunks much as they occur in their native forests; and in the Tropical Fern house the effect of a tropical forest has been fairly successfully reproduced. Then again, both the Sherman Hoyt house and the South African succulent house display the plants growing among rocks similar in colour and nature to those among which they occur in their native countries.

For the botanical student there are the unrivalled collections in the Herbarium and Library, the specimens in the Herbarium now numbering about 5,000,000; while the Jodrell Laboratory offers facilities for students who may wish to carry out physiological and other researches in connection with the specimens growing in the Gardens. In normal times the Herbarium is a Mecca for botanists from all over the world, since there are preserved the valuable "type" specimens brought home from all parts of the world by botanical collectors working in conjunction with Kew.

It should be mentioned that Kew has been responsible for producing the various descriptive "Floras" of the Dominions and Colonies, the need for which was outlined by Sir William Hooker.

The work of Kew, as may be gathered from what has been said, is pre-eminently scientific, but it is also possible for a non-scientific visitor to derive full enjoyment from the general beauty of the Gardens, for, though the trees and shrubs are mainly planted in their proper systematic order, the landscape effect has also been fully preserved.

To quote the words of Sir William Thiselton-Dyer—Kew "has itself grown and flourished under its past and present Chiefs . . . not so much from its dependence upon their merits, but rather because the principles of its administration have been essentially British and practical.

"It has steadily set itself to do every kind of public work which is connected with botanical science.

"It was never launched with a theoretically complete equipment and constitution, but it has slowly earned every advantage that has been conceded to it, and, as its labours have been enlarged, so its capacity for their performance has been increased."

The following testimony, extracted from a speech by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain in the House of Commons on August 2, 1898, will show how much, in the opinion of one of the most famous of Colonial Secretaries, the Colonies owe to Kew: "I do not think it is too much to say that at the present time there are several of our important Colonies which owe whatever prosperity they possess to the knowledge and experience of, and the assistance given by, the authorities at Kew Gardens. Thousands of letters pass every year between the authorities at Kew and the Colonies, and they are able to place at the service of these Colonies not only the best advice and experience, but seeds and samples of economic plants capable of cultivation in the Colonies."

## HAPPY TOM WORRALL

By SIMON EVANS

**T**OM WORRALL of Kinlet—happy, laughing Tom. If trouble comes his way, "Oh, Lord," he cries, "well, well, it might ha' bin worse. Buckle to, my hearties, traces out, we mun tackle it hearty."

His laughter is, at first, a deep rumble, then, without haste, it grows and grows until it becomes a series of explosive guffaws well mixed with chuckles and snorts. He is a perfect picture of "Laughter holding both his sides."

The neat white house on a hair-pin bend where he lived for many years is still known as Punch's Corner.

"The opple trees in the orchard, suree," he said, "they were prime. All along the roadside, suree, an' what crops! But I didna get 'em all. Ha! ha! Hah! hah! hah! The schoolboys an' a bunch o' young rascals from Clibbery—every time they pass, suree, dunna they gi'e 'em some Oh-come-all-ye-faithful. I allus roars at 'em, but dang-swang old Beelzebub—I were a lad—ho! ho!—an' maybe I were a rascal. Live an' let live, eh?"

Now, in semi-retirement, Old Tom lives in a square, solid-looking house behind a well kept garden only a stone's throw from Punch's Corner, and, although he does not farm as many acres as he did of yore, his days are as jolly as ever they were.

I see him and talk with him on market days. He has the broadest smile, the warmest grip, and the jolliest, rumbling voice I know. Whether he talks of bulls or beans, of politics or pumpkins, he is always as gay and free as a mountain stream. Chuckling, chattering, never still, always bright, he has a thousand and one incidents of his youth to recall, but he never lands the same fish twice.

Tom Worrall attends the Farmers' Dinner, the Bowling Club Dinner, the Bell-ringers' Dinner—any dinner which promises a jolly evening, and at these festive gatherings he is a hoped-for and welcome guest.

What quaint old songs he sings—*Now we are busy, There's nothing like the rattle of the Chink, Chink, Chink, We all ploughed our acre a day*. His patter after each verse is original and spontaneous; he has a most persuasive manner and a very happy knack of including all the company in his loquacious chatter and pantomimic dumbshow. You cannot escape his attention. Staid and sober men, care-worn, dismal men, solemn, grim-faced men are all glist for Tom Worrall's mill; his humour is infectious.

## IRELAND

A wise-eyed solemn child, tanned gipsy, see  
In solitary play beneath the elder tree  
In the wild hillside garden where the hours  
Go by on tip-toe over the kitchen flowers :  
There's sweet potato-bloom, lavender and  
white,  
But under the hedge, nettles and aconite ;  
And a border made, of thyme and saxifrage,  
On a ledge pennywort, and in a bed, sage.  
But he, forgotten child, content to play  
With dreams for company, all summer in a  
day,  
In his coign where the green rain-water-  
barrel is  
Under the elder, hears strangest harmonies.  
His eyes, dark sloes, follow the evening sun  
Up the hill slopes, till night's shadow dun  
Enfolds the garden and him. In the last  
rich light  
He finds a secret knowledge and his delight :  
For then, he knows that beyond the round  
hill's brim  
Where no one has ever been is the world's  
rim ;  
And there, he has heard tell, is Ireland coiled  
In ultimate seas and is the end of the world.  
"Ireland," he whispers to the sky's blue tent—  
And the waters of sleep steal over him  
content.

A. L. ROWSE.



OLD TOM WORRALL : "YOU CANNA HOLD HIM DOWN"

When the customers in the bar of the King's Arms hear a rousing, roaring chorus ringing in the rafters of the old club-room, they smile.

"Old Tom Worrall's at his games agen," mumbles Cocker, the ostler.

"Ay" agrees Lofty, the postman "you canna hold him down."

"Best bit o' furniture for miles around, I'll gamble on that." This from long Tom Reader.

"The older the fiddle the better the tune. Make way, my lads, make a way," shouts mine host as he staggers towards the club-room with a large jug of ale and a tray loaded with small drinks.

A day in the city with Tom Worrall is a day to be remembered. He does not know the meaning of shyness. He is a plain, blunt man with a most affable inquisitiveness.

Some time ago he journeyed to Birmingham. After making his way from the station to the busy thoroughfare he stood for a while and stared at the new traffic signal. A solemn policeman approached.

"Hoy, Mr. Policeman," Tom's great voice startled several passers-by "if you beant in a mortal hurry con ee tell a lad from the country what to do here? 'Go—Stop' that thing says—well, what mun I do, suree?"

The policeman's explanation was cut short by Harry Peach.

"Come along, Tom lad. Canna ye trust old friends to care for ye?"

Later on, after some little discussion, Tom decided he would dine at —, a large store of many departments. Here, he was told, a band played and entertained all who dined. A huge commissionaire swung the doors wide open at our approach.

"Thank 'ee, lad, thank 'ee," Tom boomed at him. "Eh, but you'm a bonny lad," he added as he shook the old soldier's hand.

While making our way through the first department Tom was attracted by a life-size model of a young woman beautifully arrayed in bridal attire.

"Good-day to 'ee, my pretty maid," he said, as he swept off his bowler hat and bowed almost to the floor.

When Tom stood erect again he saw that the "bride" still wore the same fixed expression; her pensive smile still beamed upon him. One of our company whispered the truth to Tom.

"Well, I'll be dang-swanged" he roared. "But ain't she beautiful? Oh suree, most beautiful she be."

Tom appeared to be in blissful ignorance of the fact that all the ladies shopping in this section of the store were greatly amused.

Some were following us with the hope of more amusement.

To reach the café we took the lift. Tom's loud shouts of dismay and delight were a joy to all the company. His warm and impressive speech of thanks to the smart young lady in charge of the lift caused a crowd to gather; the chatter and noise in the café became a dead silence while Tom spoke on behalf of his friends from Shropshire, who had come, he said, to see the Fat Stock Show at Bingley Hall.

This last remark was quite unnecessary, as witness the words of the 'bus conductor when Harry Peach was about to enquire:

"Jump up for Bingley Hall, my lads," shouted that official.

"Well, I'll be dang-swanged," Tom gripped his arm. "How doost thee know we be a-goin' to Bingley Hall?"

"A babe in arms, sir, would only need one glance at men like you," replied the conductor.

Tom surprised the people in the café many times. When we were preparing to go he objected.

"I anna eaten half enough," he said in his tremendous voice. "It be such wunnerful music. Oh! it be music I'd sit agen till Kingdom come—it'll be liltin' in my old yed for many a day."

He would not leave the café until he had made his way across the floor to the orchestra, where he made another loud speech of warm thanks.

At the Cattle Show he was, of course, very much at home.

It had been arranged that we should all meet at a certain busy corner late in the evening. Tom Worrall approached this corner alone; in the crowded show he had lost his friends. He walked straight to a burly policeman.

"Hast seen a red-headed — name o' Peach hereabouts?" he asked, much to the surprise of the constable.

That "red-headed —" appeared at that moment and clapped Tom on his back.

When we boarded the train songs and jokes kept us awake; we were a very lively little company when we arrived at our small Shropshire town.

Tom Worrall of Kinlet—happy, laughing Tom—what a companion, full of energy, as jolly as a healthy schoolboy. His humour is boisterous and hearty, no matter what hour of the day or night you meet him. No matter what the weather, he is a tonic.

Long life to Tom Worrall.

## THE SINGING FIELD

To I. O. G.

Standing in flower-enamelled meadows  
Roofed with blue heaven  
I have heard  
The wild cloud concerts of the morning  
bird . . .  
High on the purple moorland lying  
Spell-bound I've listened  
While he sang  
Till all the golden air with music rang,  
And yearly, as each February breaks  
Above my own familiar fields, he sings  
And in that joyous surge of singing, takes  
My lame heart upwards on his soaring  
wings. . . .  
But here, dawn breaks to East wind moaning.  
Grey mists encircle  
This bleak field.  
Its grass is darkened with the coal pits' yield—  
Yet, with the same persistent gladness  
Cleaving the vapours  
The brown lark  
Sends down his song, a fire engendering spark,  
Gilding with morning flames this dank, cold  
ground,  
Clothing this stretch of pitland with Spring's  
state . . .  
Oh Singing Field! Surely my heart has found  
A short-cut up to Heaven's very gate!

HELEN B. G. SUTHERLAND.

# WITH ROOKS AMONG THE TREE-TOPS

By C. ERIC PALMAR

**R**OOKS are extremely interesting birds to watch. There is always something "on" in a rookery, so that one's waits in the swaying tree-top hide do not have those periods, common when one is watching other birds, during which nothing in particular is happening.

Watch this male rook on a near-by branch as he preens his glossy feathers, suddenly to leave off in the middle of his manoeuvres to give vent to an angry "Gark! Gark!" at some distant member of the community. As he does so, he bends forwards and downwards, bowing as it were, and at the same time fans his tail and takes a more determined grip on his branch. Then, again quite suddenly, he loses interest in the distant offence and unconcernedly resumes his preening as though nothing in the world had distracted him, or ever could. That is the rook all over—he is a busybody who must needs poke his nose in everything and everywhere.

One rook in particular that I watched was a thorough rascal. His nest (or, rather, his wife's nest, for she alone is responsible for its construction) was still incomplete and empty, and consequently he had no brooding hen bird to feed. So his time was his own. He would travel from branch to branch, cawing slowly in a bass voice at the brooding hen rooks, while sometimes, out of sheer spite, he would even peck them and pull twigs from their nests.

Once he gave me a glorious chance to record his bad actions, for when the hen bird nearest to me left her nest for a short flight round the rookery he swooped down and pulled out several sticks from her nest. As



THE MALE ROOK (left) HAS RETURNED FROM THE FIELDS WITH A FULL FOOD-POUCH (SEEN UNDER HIS BILL)

The hen rook rises from her eggs and awaits the food he will give her

the accompanying photographs show, this thieving tendency is by no means confined to the male birds.

But the rook's character is not all vice, for the longer we sit up among the nests the more is it demonstrated to us that even a male rook can be virtuous. Witness his behaviour towards his wife: the faithful regularity with which he brings her food from the fields; the fact that he spends much of his time by her side at the nest, and his meticulous care for the young, all reflect on the gentler side of his nature.

When the young have been hatched the rook becomes a model father. He works so hard fetching food for them that quite frequently he arrives home to find his youngsters sound asleep, not having yet thrown off the lethargic effects of the last meal! He waits a few moments; then, if they do not wake up, he lowers his head over them and softly caws. The effect is instantaneous: four gaping mouths shoot up, four shrill voices clamour to be fed. Then he goes round, sharing out the contents of his food-pouch between the brood. When he has finished he wipes his beak on a branch and departs again for the fields.

Even away from the nest the rook is still a most interesting bird. He can even be amusing. His "song" never fails to draw a smile from a listener, consisting as it does of a ridiculous series of subdued throaty croaks, reminding one of certain notes of his relative the raven. It is uttered as though the bird were singing to himself, and consequently does not carry at all far. I have heard it in most months of the year, though February appears to be particularly favoured. The throaty vocal accomplishments of a rook who used to perch on a wireless pole outside my bedroom window used to wake me up at an uncomfortably early hour every morning, and that is how I was first made aware that rooks were musically inclined. "Song" can be heard from birds flying or perched.

It is held by many that the rook is harmless and noisy, and that it is the crow that is the rogue. There is no doubt about the crow, but if a rook and a crow together came upon a tempting morsel of plunder—a nestful of eggs, for instance—who would say with confidence that the rook would be more backward than the crow in pouncing upon the feast? Personally I have no doubt that the rook would be as keen to get the spoils as the crow. But this can, I think, be said for the rook: he does not go out of his way, as a rule, after eggs or chicks, as does his more sable relative, who is a professor of the art. The rook, then, while he prefers worms and slugs and such fare, certainly can be a plunderer, but he is an amateur one, and this saves his face, and doubtless often, too, his life.



THE MALE ROOK STANDS GUARD WHILE THE HEN (below) SHAPES THE NEST PREPARATORY TO LAYING

This and the accompanying photograph were taken from a hide 80 ft. above the ground



### A THIEF AT WORK

1.—THE HEN ROOK IS AWAY ON A FLIGHT ROUND THE ROOKERY. A ROBBER ROOK (ANOTHER HEN) ARRIVES, TAKES A QUICK LOOK ROUND . . .

2.—. . . AND SEIZES A TWIG IN HER BEAK. SHE FLIES OFF WITH IT TO HER OWN HALF-BUILT NEST

3.—IT ALL SEEMS VERY EASY AND CONVENIENT, SO SHE RETURNS FOR ANOTHER . . .

4.—. . . AND BACK SHE COMES AGAIN FOR A THIRD. AT THIS RATE HER NEST WILL BE FINISHED IN NO TIME. BUT SUDDENLY . . .

5.—. . . THE OWNER OF THE NEST RETURNS HOME, AND A BATTLE ROYAL BEGINS AMONG THE SWAYING TREE-TOPS, UNTIL THE INTRUDER IS DRIVEN OFF



# EWELME

## II—THE ROMANCE OF ALICE CHAUCER AND WILLIAM, DUKE OF SUFFOLK



1.—ALMSHOUSE AND CHURCH, ROSY BRICK AND SILVER STONE

*The almshouse founded by William de la Pole and his wife in 1437 is the earliest brick building in southern England. It is suggested that the use of brick both here and at Eton College, founded 1440, is due to de la Pole's Yorkshire extraction*



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2.—THE PORCH TO THE ALMSHOUSE  
The earliest use of brick in southern England, and very like work in  
Bruges and the Baltic cities

**M**R. WINGFIELD was the sexton at Ewelme—I hope he is still, though it is some years since I used to meet him there. In telling of William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, founder of God's House, he would recount how the Duke was a Suffolk man and came to Ewelme from his castle of Wingfield in that county, concluding his tale with the words "and we came with him."

He spoke proudly and affectionately, in such a way that, at Ewelme, five hundred years seemed to contract suddenly to a day before yesterday: the young Lancastrian general who had seen and fought the Maid of Orleans, who had helped his boy King with the building of Eton, and whose mangled body was found lying on the beach at Dover, rose from the history books a vivid human personality whom Mr. Wingfield's granter had known intimately. And Alice Chaucer, his Duchess—Geoffrey's granddaughter—lies at Ewelme to this day, so that we can scan her alabaster features—firm, aristocratic, but marble cold. Ewelme was hers, and it was through marrying her that William—and old Mr. Wingfield—came from Suffolk.

There is more than the long memories of the Ewelme villagers to connect this corner of Oxfordshire with a village in Suffolk no better known. Those familiar with the tall, light churches of Suffolk can scarcely fail to note a resemblance between them and Ewelme: the style and plan are sufficiently alike to have caused one authority to believe that the same clerk of the works built both. The east wall is built in those chalk and flint chequers almost universal in Suffolk. One of the most noticeable objects within is a towering traceried font canopy of the kind carved for many East Anglian churches, but uncommon in these parts. The golden feathered angels who watch the Duchess's tomb belong to the breed that live in the roofs of Suffolk churches. It certainly looks as though the Duke brought his masons and carpenters with him besides the Mr. Wingfield of the day—who may even have been one of them.

But the church, though the climax to the discoveries to be made there, is only part of Ewelme's treasure, and is habitually reached through the College, or Almshouse, or God's House as William and Alice called it. This too has architectural affinities that open up interesting speculations. The approach to Ewelme has been delightfully described by our contributors "Paul and Virginia," who have pictured how the village lies round a spring at the foot of the Chilterns not far below the

Icknield Way. It lies at the mouth of Swyncombe where that wooded valley opens out into the Thames plain, and is built indeed, on the side of the valley. The lovely rosy brick and silver stone buildings of the College step up the steep side, one above the other. Their grouping in this way, so that you climb past each to reach the next, contributes a great deal to their dramatic effect, producing a curious impression of having walked into a world arranged in mediæval perspective as in some illuminated manuscript, with the successive houses on top of instead of behind one another. First comes William and Alice's school, where the children of Ewelme still sit their lessons in a tall brick building, and angels with bobbed hair guard the windows. Past the pointed brick arch with its original richly traceried oak door, the path slopes up to the porch of God's House (Fig. 2) through which you go into a square cloister. Its four walls framed in oak are of brick, like the Horseshoe Cloisters at Windsor, and have the houses of "thirteen poor men" opening off them, together with their common hall, and a pump in the middle. In this backwater of peace well may the memories of William and Alice be kept green, with the smell of the hay-fields and roses eddying in over the low tiled roofs and the church tower soaring over them.

From the middle of one side of the cloister, the east, a long flight of steps continues the ascent of the hill and brings you directly beneath the church tower. Through



3—"THE EAST WALL OF THE CHURCH IS BUILT OF THE CHALK AND FLINT CHEQUERS ALMOST UNIVERSAL IN SUFFOLK"

the west door the vista is continued straight to the great Perpendicular east window and the altar beside which lies Alice, with her pale exquisite features; the sides of her tomb,

bright with Lancastrian heraldry, the canopy a-flutter with angels; below, as faithfully carved, her shrouded skeleton.

Two things about the College buildings prompt surmise: the fact that, founded in 1437, they are of brick; and the tracery of the sunk panel of the porch, so like the work commonly seen in Bruges and the Baltic cities but rarely encountered in England. Brick was still an unknown material in England at that date except on the east coast. This is the earliest surviving instance of its use in the south of England. In Yorkshire, bricks had been made and used on a large scale since the beginning of the fourteenth century, notably for the town walls of Hull and Beverley. The de la Poles were originally Hull merchants, and owed their first rise to an "extraordinary and voluntary loan" of £4,000 made to Edward III by our William de la Pole's great-grandfather in 1327. He sumptuously entertained the King at Hull, was knighted, and made the first mayor of the newly created borough. Edward subsequently found him a useful alternative as a banker to the Bardi of Florence and the Hanseatic merchants, and entrusted to him frequent negotiations with Flanders. It is not known who was responsible for introducing the Flemish building material to England at Hull; but the leading citizen of the town a few years later, who had close commercial relations with the Low Countries, must certainly have been very familiar with the possibilities of brick as a building material. This seems significant in view of his descendant's partiality for it, not only at Ewelme but elsewhere.

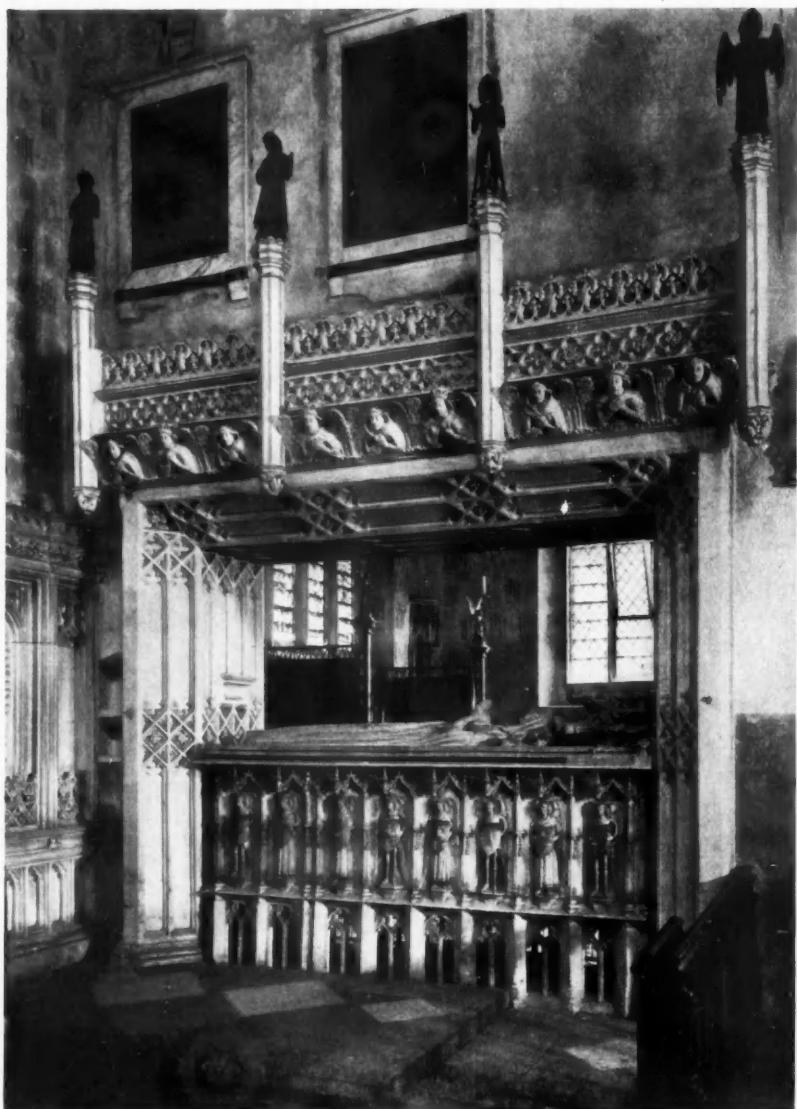
The only evidence of their architectural taste left by the intervening generations of de la Poles is negative on this particular question. The merchant's eldest son, Michael, attached himself firmly to the interests of Richard II, being made by him his Lord Chancellor, Earl of Suffolk, and a Knight of the Garter. It was he who built Wingfield Castle in that county on a property brought him by his wife—a flint-walled, moated structure, but with no surviving or visible use of bricks. He was the first of the de la Poles to pay with his life for his family's sudden rise from obscurity through attachment to an unpopular cause, dying an exile in Paris in 1391. Henry Bolingbroke restored the Suffolk estates to his son Michael who died at the siege of Harfleur, and a few weeks later his son, the third Earl, also Michael, was killed at Agincourt. On his brother's death William de la Pole, then aged twenty, succeeded to the Suffolk earldom.



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#### 4—A SUFFOLK CHURCH IN OXFORDSHIRE

The traceried font canopy of the kind carved for many East Anglian churches. On the pillar to the left, the head of King Edward III



(Above) 5.—ALICE, DUCHESS OF SUFFOLK, DIED 1475

"Her tomb bright with Lancastrian heraldry, the canopy a-flutter with angels; below, her shrouded skeleton"

(Right) 6.—THE HOSPITAL CHAPEL WITH THE DUCHESS'S TOMB

The original decoration is preserved, even to the carved and painted angels in the ceiling

The adjoining manors of Ewelme and Swyncombe had at that date recently come into the possession of Thomas Chaucer, Speaker of the House of Commons and Chief Butler to the Crown, whose father, a successful Civil Servant, had amused the Court with his romances and droll tales of the common people. Thomas Chaucer held these Oxfordshire manors in right of his wife, Matilda Burghersh. Their only daughter, Alice, aged twelve in the year of Agincourt, had been affianced in childhood to a certain Sir John Phelip but had been widowed before she was wife by his death at Harfleur of the same epidemic of dysentery that laid low the elder Michael de la Pole. She subsequently married one of Henry V's most distinguished captains, Thomas Montague, Earl of Salisbury, who commanded British forces in France after Henry's death. His second in command was the young William de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk. Salisbury was killed by artillery fire at the siege of Orleans in 1428, where the English first came up against the Maid. Suffolk had to abandon the siege, and soon to yield himself a captive to Joan of Arc in person "as the bravest woman on earth" according to one account. Two years

later he had married the widow of his late commander; in 1433 he was made Steward of the Royal Household; and in 1434 the death of Thomas Chaucer brought Ewelme into the possession of the Earl and Countess.

The next ten years may well have been the happiest in William and Alice's lives. Whether their marriage was one of mutual interest or romance, they were a devoted couple, and we are told that they "took great pleasure and delight to reside at Ewelme," where William "much augmented and beautified the court and manor house." This building, which was to become an occasional residence of Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth, has completely disappeared, but an old print of it is reproduced (Fig. 11) in Napier's *Parishes of Swyncombe and Ewelme*. The building was already reputed to be completely ruined in 1609, and the print shows what evidently but one wing of a larger, probably quadrangular, house. It looks, by the crow-steps, to have been a brick building, and as God's House, which was built between 1437 and 1440, is of brick, this presumption is reasonable. The inaccurately rendered arches look as though they may have resembled the four-centred arches in the older parts of Eton College.

Points of resemblance to Eton, founded by Henry VI in 1440, would also be not improbable, since there is good evidence for regarding William de la Pole as the chief architectural adviser of the young King in the early stages of the building. He was all-powerful in the Royal household; he was well acquainted with Bekynton, the King's secretary and most active agent in the foundation of Eton; and it was Suffolk who in 1440 issued instructions to the master mason of Eton to procure fifty of the best masons in England; to him again, in 1446, that the clerk of the works applied to settle details of the College hall. He was from the first a liberal patron of the College, which—initially conceived as a foundation for as many poor, infirm men as poor scholars, besides a provost, fellows, and choristers—might be regarded as a larger version of God's House. Under these circumstances the decision to use brick for the collegiate buildings, unprecedented except for that just completed at Ewelme, looks as though it must have been directly due to de la Pole's influence. If this is so, School Yard and Cloisters at Eton are the lineal descendants, through de la Pole and Ewelme, from the brick walls of Kingston-upon-Hull a century earlier in date.

Suffolk rose to the height of his power through the



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7.—THE CHAUCER CREST  
Chancel arch beside the Duchess's tomb



8.—KING HENRY VI  
Small portrait bust on a pillar in the nave



9.—"A DEMI-VIRGIN HOLDING A CUP"  
Arms of Geoffrey and Thomas Chaucer's wives

negotiation of peace with France in 1444 and the marriage of Henry and Margaret of Anjou. He was advanced to Marquess and later Duke of Suffolk, his wife was the Queen's most intimate attendant, and with her support he largely governed the country. An undercurrent in Cardinal Beaufort and de la Pole's foreign policy, not without significance in connection with Ewelme, was its sacrifice of national commercial interests to the always pressing and now insistent demands of the Hanseatic League. This huge German mercantile confederation, of which Bruges, Danzig and Lubeck (brick cities all) were the chief members, were confirmed in unprecedented trading privileges in, significantly, 1437—the year of Suffolk's foundation of the Ewelme almshouses. There is no evidence to implicate him directly in the negotiation of this treaty, but he was undoubtedly party to it; his family connections with the Baltic and Flemish merchants were strong; and it is known that Cardinal Beaufort obtained certain personal advantages as a result of the conclusion of the treaty. These suspicions throw a rather sinister light on that picturesque Gothic brick porch to God's House, the design of which is so reminiscent of Bruges and Hanseatic architecture generally.

In 1450 the growing Yorkist opposition to de la Pole's supremacy found vent in the usual Parliamentary procedure of those days; he was impeached, and, after a few days' refuge at Wingfield, fled overseas, but was intercepted and murdered in the Straits of Dover. His remains were given to his widow and interred beneath an effigy in Wingfield Church. That devout and it would seem politic lady subsequently trimmed her course towards the Yorkist camp, in which her step-grandson (by her first husband Salisbury's previous marriage) was no less a person than Warwick the King-maker, and where her own son, John, second Duke of Suffolk, eventually wedded the sister of the King himself,

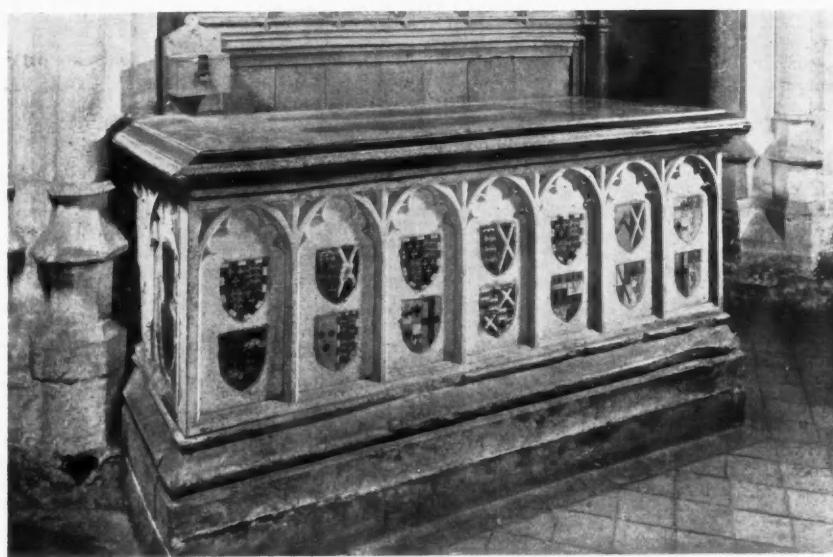
Elizabeth of York. In after years, too, the hapless Queen Margaret, a fugitive and now a captive, was consigned to the Duchess's custody in Wallingford Castle. There is no record that the woman who had been her chief lady visited her in her plight. The times were no doubt too dangerous, and the Duchess too occupied with her pious works. She herself died at Ewelme in 1475.

Her church, exceptionally beautiful, is exceptionally well preserved, its safety during the Civil Wars having been due to Colonel Francis Martin, the Parliamentary officer who lived at Ewelme at the time and who is buried in the building he so faithfully protected. The interior, though of no great size, gives an impression of light spaciousness, yet without the gauntness of some East Anglian Perpendicular churches, or the over-ornateness of others of the period. There is considerable difference in the mouldings of the north and south arcades, suggesting that the latter, though following the profile and proportions, were built some years later. At the spring of the arches above the font a bearded head of a king resembles Edward III; a delightful little bust on a column opposite is certainly of Henry VI (Fig. 8). The silvery oak chancel screen, with wrought-iron bars, survives intact. If it ever was painted in the manner

of Suffolk screens, all traces of colour have disappeared. At the east end of the south aisle is the chapel of the Hospital (Fig. 6), dedicated to St. John—the favourite saint of Henry VI. The chestnut roof is diapered with I H S in relief and has feathered angels carved at the intersection of the beams. The walls also are diapered with the sacred initials, the colouring of which was revived in the careful restoration of the church in the nineteenth century. Between chapel and chancel is the great tomb of the Duchess and the scarcely less interesting one of her father and mother.

The Duchess's tomb, retaining its original colouring and gilding, is one of the most beautiful of the age. Her effigy, wearing the Order of the Garter round her left arm (the precedent adopted by Queen Victoria), wears a long cloak and veil, and her coroneted head rests on a cushion supported by four gilded angels, her feet upon the Burghersh lion. On the sides of the tomb stand angels, alternately robed and feathered, and all painted, holding shields charged with the arms of de la Pole, Roet, and Chaucer. Demi-angels, with uplifted hands, form the cornice of the canopy, above them borders of quatrefoils and oak leaves. Tall finials support feathered angels of wood, attenuated and lissom. These feathered angels, with their gold plumage and bright-coloured wings, are exceedingly elegant. The type is more frequently met with in the roofs of East Anglian churches. The "costume" itself, it has been suggested, was perhaps that used for angelic characters in the mystery plays of the period. Below the tomb is the "cadaver" of the Duchess, an emaciated form beneath a shroud, visible through the lower tracery and designedly in grim contrast to the stately figure above. The ceiling of this lower compartment is painted with a well-preserved representation of the Assumption of the Virgin, but it is, of course, almost invisible owing to its position.

Adjoining in the next arch westward is



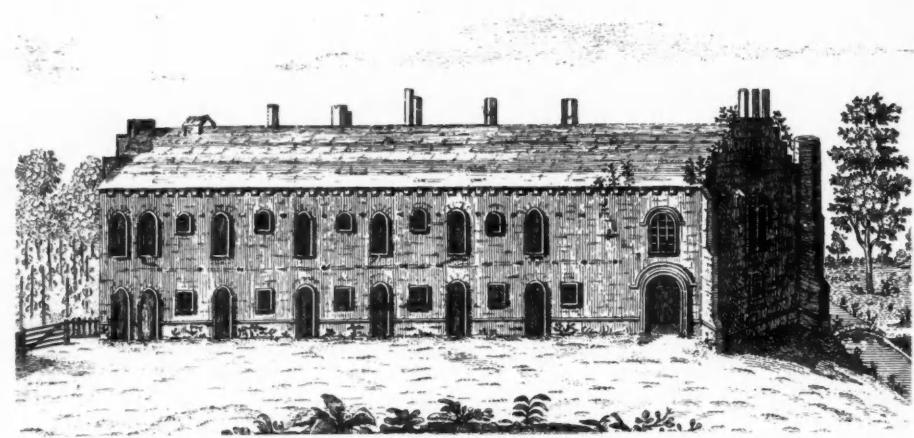
10.—THOMAS CHAUCER'S TOMB  
The arms are those of his wife's distinguished relatives, including her brother-in-law, John of Gaunt

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the Chaucer tomb, a grey marble altar bearing twenty-four painted heraldic shields on its sides and the brass figures of a knight and his lady in the top—at the feet the unicorn crest of Chaucer. When the tomb was repaired in 1843, eleven of the shields were missing but were replaced from a record made of them by Richard Lee, Portcullis Pursuivant, in 1574, preserved in the Ashmolean. The principal arms are those of Roet (Geoffrey Chaucer's wife) and Burghersh (Thomas's wife); the remainder being the distinguished collaterals of those families. Since Sir Payne Roet's elder daughter married John of Gaunt, the arms of England are among them. The fact that Sir Payne Roet was Guyen King at Arms may partly account for his grandson's evident interest in heraldry. But it is disillusioning to see how little reference is made to Geoffrey Chaucer by his son and granddaughter. In the arch above, a saucy "demi-Virgin" holds a catharine-wheel, the Roet badge, in her hand; a similar figure holds a gold cup and a shield of Roet impaling Burghersh (Fig. 9). On the chancel side of the arch the shield of Roet hangs from a mantled helmet surmounted by the Chaucer crest (Fig. 7), a unicorn's head resting on a ducal coronet; it is balanced by a similar composition embodying Roet impaling Burghersh.

All this heraldry, woven into the decoration of the chapel, is typical of the age of chivalry in its decadence. The bearers of these bright devices, as of those pictured in



11.—EWELME PALACE

Reproduced "from an old print" in Napier's *Parishes of Ewelme and Swyncombe*

the hall windows of near-by Ockwells Manor, had carried them honourably through a hundred years of fighting across the Channel. Now all their conquests had melted away, but the Lancastrian Court was bedizened with *argent* and *gules* and *ermine* symbols of past glory, and even while the devout King was endeavouring in his saintly way, and some of his courtiers with him, to create something permanent out of the fine aristocratic spirit it stood for—founding colleges and almshouses and churches—it carried the seeds of its

own disruption. Within forty years the feudal aristocracy was a broken remnant, its peers dead upon the fields of Barnet and Towton and Bosworth; the de la Poles themselves were marked by the Tudors for extinction because of the blood royal. Yet, pondering on William and Alice at Ewelme, these long-forgotten, fine-featured, tragic lords and ladies, whose world was so soon to die, come across the centuries to us as, on the whole, a gallant, noble race.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.

## A COUNTRYWOMAN'S DIARY

A COMMUNITY DINING-HALL: POPULAR AND UNPOPULAR DISHES—AN EVACUEE STORY—THE CAT WITH AN ODD FACE—THE LIPSTICK SPIRIT

By E. M. DELAFIELD

**R**ECENT references to Benji the keeshond in this Diary have brought me a charming reminder from a correspondent who, some years ago, visited my Devonshire home. He well remembers the friendly and exuberant gaiety of the dog, and rejoices that "he is still going strong."

*Ehew fugaces!*

The dog that he remembers is Benji's father—who still, one is glad to add, adorns the household, although in soberer fashion and a good deal tormented by his son's iron determination that they shall behave as boys together.

Time marches on.

\* \* \* \* \*

**A** MIDDAY meal, taken at a Community Dining Hall in a provincial town last week, was an interesting experience. The food was good, consisting of meat pasties, a green vegetable, potatoes and gravy. It was well cooked—except that the potatoes should have been cooked with a pinch of salt, and weren't—and it was served hot. The last is an important point, and indicated good organisation, for there were about three hundred evacuees to serve, women and children, and that section of the community which is called "toddlers" and might be even better described as rampers, roarers and stampers, for they did all of these things and thereby prevented their mothers from enjoying any real relaxation during the meal.

The second course was a rice pudding, milky and nice.

Cups of tea were available.

The charge for the dinner was sixpence, young children half-price.

\* \* \* \*

**N**OT one of the women with whom I talked was a grumbler. Far from it. They all showed a most reasonable spirit, and when a Ministry of Food official asked for suggestions, these were given with an obvious desire to co-operate, and not merely to find fault.

The extreme unpopularity of the present-day sausage was made very clear, and the practice of trying to ginger it up with a quantity of pepper was universally, and rightly, scorned.

The mere mention of the word "stew" caused a great amount of head-shaking and mouth-pursing. I remembered a certain advertisement on the front page of a London paper, and the story of a Londoner who, raising a spoonful of stew to her lips at a crowded table, enquired thoughtfully into space: "I wonder whatever happened to them thousand kittens as was advertised for?"

Pudding—as represented by those pale slabs of suet so much disliked by Dr. Grimston's pupils—was also unpopular.

\* \* \* \*

**W**E then come to the more constructive type of criticism.

What kind of "afters"—i.e., second course—did the Londoners really think they would like?

The unanimity of the reply, as well as its nature, surprised me.

They all declared that there was nothing in the world to equal "jelly and a nice custard."

Talking it over afterwards with the Regional Officer of the Ministry of Food—a woman, I am glad to say—we agreed that they liked the jelly partly because it looks attractive, and partly because it puts no strain upon teeth that are, unfortunately, either real and decayed, or false and ill fitting.

A passion for custard seems to me so incomprehensible that I found it quite hard to believe the Regional Officer when she assured me that the above reasons also held good for custard.

But I expect she was right—and I hope that the hostesses of evacuated London women will note. The food-content of the jelly may not rank very high, but as an occasional treat its psychological value should be considerable.

I nearly forgot to say how very much I wish that all mothers might have at least one community meal in a community which would not include their younger children. *Mutatis mutandis.*

\* \* \* \*

**E**VACUEE stories have become almost a drug in the market—yet here is one more, which can probably find a parallel in several parts of England, now that March is here.

"What's them in the fields, Miss?"

"Sheep, with their lambs," replied Miss.

"Aow. I thought they was white bears," returned the evacuee phlegmatically—evidently feeling that one might expect pretty well anything in the country.

\* \* \* \*

**T**HOMPSON, of whom I have written before, is a very pretty grey cat of imperturbable good temper. It is therefore all the sadder for his fellow-cat—an elderly white and orange monster named Napoleon—that those who see him for the first time are very apt to enquire whether there is anything wrong with his face.

As a matter of fact, quite a lot is wrong with his face, and the real marvel is that he has any face at all. Some years ago Napoleon—then already past middle age—made a very ill-judged jump out of a hedge exactly as a car was going by. He must have landed head first against the side of the car, for he was found with his face and part of his head literally flattened out, one eye apparently blinded, and most of the rest of him smothered in blood. For a week or more he submitted to a good deal of washing and disinfecting, refusing to taste anything except water, and then he recovered. But his head is still shaped more like the ace of spades than anything else, his face flattened, and the sight of one eye doubtful.

It was decided by his owners that at least three of his nine lives must be accounted lost. Allowing for hunting accidents and advancing age—Napoleon is about eleven years old—he should still have three more in paw.

\* \* \* \*

**M**R. J. B. PRIESTLEY—for whom no one has a greater admiration than I—recently told us in a Sunday evening postscript that women needn't give so much thought and care as hitherto to their appearance. He seemed to feel that this would relieve us of a certain amount of worry.

I have no doubt that three minutes' talk with any self-respecting woman would show Mr. Priestley his error.

A woman who ceases to give thought and care to her appearance is a woman defeated. Remember that young woman who was taken prisoner by Chinese bandits some years ago,

and got a message through to her mother, asking her to try to send her a lipstick. As she very sensibly explained afterwards, she knew that the presence, and application of the lipstick would stiffen her morale.

\* \* \*

I HAVE just heard from a Member of the Ulster Parliament, one of whose constitu-

ents has telephoned for advice. He—the constituent—has been awarded the M.B.E. for many years of devoted public service and has just been summoned to the investiture. He has never been to London—has, indeed, never travelled at all—and is seventy years old. He wished his M.P. to advise him, not only on the question of obtaining a permit, but as to the exact whereabouts of Buckingham Palace,

how he should get there, and “whether it was far?”

Neither the difficulty of travel, and the dangers of an all-too-possible *Blitz*, nor any other consideration, is going to deprive the old loyalist of his great day: the day when he will see his King, and receive his decoration from the hands of his King.

## HOLES OR MATCHES

I HAD a letter from a friend the other day pointing out that in other times we should soon have been looking forward to going to the University match and to make his remarks if possible the more poignant he had placed the match, in imagination, at St. George's. The notion had, I must confess, already crossed my mind.

Is it then regret for buried time

That keenlier in sweet April wakes?

Well, to be precise, it wakes, as regards this match, in March, and I have been nostalgically looking at the page on which the results of all the matches are set out, observing the fact that Oxford still hold the record in the form of six consecutive wins, and reflecting, not bitterly, that had there been a match in 1940 Cambridge would assuredly have equalled it. However, this is not to be an article of narrow patriotism, but conceived on broader lines. Something else struck me, with a rather painful surprise, namely, that it is thirty-four years ago since the scoring in the match was changed from that by holes to that by matches. The old way is as dead as a door-nail now, save, I think, in the Army Regimental Championship, and I thought I would choose it as Calverley did the organ-grinder, “for encomium as a change.” That I liked it I am not prepared to say: only a very brave man would have done that; but there was a fine sternness about it which gave it a flavour. Once the ordeal was over, with not too catastrophic a result, it was the better to look back upon.

In that, as I venture to say, great piece of literature, Tom Brown's drive to Rugby, the author is at pains to point out to a younger generation that they have never known what it is to be cold, since they wrap themselves in rugs in a railway carriage instead of sitting on the outside of a coach in the early hours of the morning, with frozen, dangling toes. I feel inclined to adopt the same paternal attitude in this matter. To start on a thirty-six-hole match in which the scoring was by holes, was to experience a feeling of unlimited liability such as no scoring by matches can possibly equal. Eighteen was bad enough, and that was all we played in my day, but I have known that dreadful feeling elsewhere, in particular

at Hoylake, when setting out against one of its great three. To halve the first hole was almost to say to oneself: “Well, thank heaven, I can't be more than thirty-five down.” And, moreover, the disaster was not only going to be a personal one; it could drag the whole side down to defeat.

### *A Golf Commentary by* BERNARD DARWIN

Certainly it was a cruel business, and it was its cruelty that killed it. In 1907 Oxford were heaven knows how many holes up, and then one man, who was not well and perhaps ought not to have been playing, lost all those holes and one more. Yet even so there was something to be said for it. The doomed loser had to struggle on and sometimes gained much renown and some compensation to his own wounded feelings by getting back a vital hole or two on the bye. The winner had the less gracious task of rubbing it in if he could, neither relaxing nor relenting for the sake of his side. Like other cruel things, even war itself, that system did inculcate certain manly virtues.

Even though I was selfishly and timorously glad enough to see it go, I never could think much of the arguments that were used to destroy it. It was said that a match at golf ends when either player is more holes up than there remain to play. That is a self-evident proposition, but this was a team match and circumstances alter cases. It was said that the player, not knowing at any one time exactly how all his fellows were faring, did not know whether to play safe and make sure of his match or go out to win as many holes as possible.

This seems to me a piece of special pleading, not very convincing. Sometimes, in fact, the player did know, and if he did not he had to do the best he could. A man playing in a medal round does not know how the rest of the field are doing; he must blend dash and

caution as seems best to him, and medal play is not condemned on that account. Finally, it was said that if one man was off his game he might ruin his side. So indeed he might, but so also might one who played the game of his life gain his side a glorious triumph. If a man was likely to collapse and lose many holes, the obvious thing was not to put him into the side. Admittedly this argument applied with much greater force when there was a large field of choice, and not to a match between two small clubs having a difficulty in raising a side. The poor man who lost the whole eighteen holes and then wrote to the newspapers to explain that he had only just recovered from influenza was a strong weapon in the hands of those who relied on this argument.

Yet, when all was said and done, I think the real reason for doing away with scoring by holes was that it was too grim and frightened people; that it was much better fun to know that, whatever happened, one man could not lose more than one point. It certainly is better fun to hug that knowledge to the soul, and if only the arguers had come out into the open with that honest statement I should have thought more of them.

The scoring was sometimes murderously high in the University match, and here again Oxford hold the record. In 1900, at Sandwich, their total of holes was 69, and Cambridge's score, like that of my old friends the Dingley Dellers, was “as blank as their faces.” The best that Cambridge could ever do was 49, in 1905 at Sunningdale. On the other hand, one of the three matches in which I played deserves a small place in history in point of the lowness of the scoring. I came in first with one hole to my credit; the next six Cambridge men scored 0 apiece, and our last man was three up. Would it not seem certain that we were beaten into the middle of the ensuing week? Yet we were not, for Oxford scored one victory of two up and two of one apiece, so that the whole match was halved with a score of four holes aside. The match was only one of eighteen holes, but still the low scoring was remarkable. Incidentally, every single Cambridge man, beginning with myself, lost the eighteenth hole except our last man, and he missed a very short putt to win it and the match. Even to-day that is a mildly bitter memory.

I have been trying to recollect how much in these matches each of us knew about his companions. I have not been very successful, but I do recall one fact which tends to show that we did not know very much. In my Captain's year we were six holes up with two matches to come in, and yet were in a state of depression. Why? Because we knew that Mr. Humphrey Ellis, then a freshman and playing last but one for Oxford, had holed the first ten holes in fours or under—an incredibly good score in those days—and had then been six up. After that he had been lost to sight, and we were gloomily prepared to find him ten up or so on the last tee. When we heard he was only three up we could have fallen on the neck of his gallant opponent who had got those precious holes back. After this we were fairly sure that all was well, and so it was.

When one grows old it is as well to keep any very conservative opinions to oneself, and in any case I am not prepared to say that the old method was definitely the better. All I am inclined to say is that it was very good discipline and that it did make the match more hideously exciting up to the last moment. Heaven knows, however, I have been quite excited enough in the modern way and hope I may live to be so again, even to the verge of apoplexy.

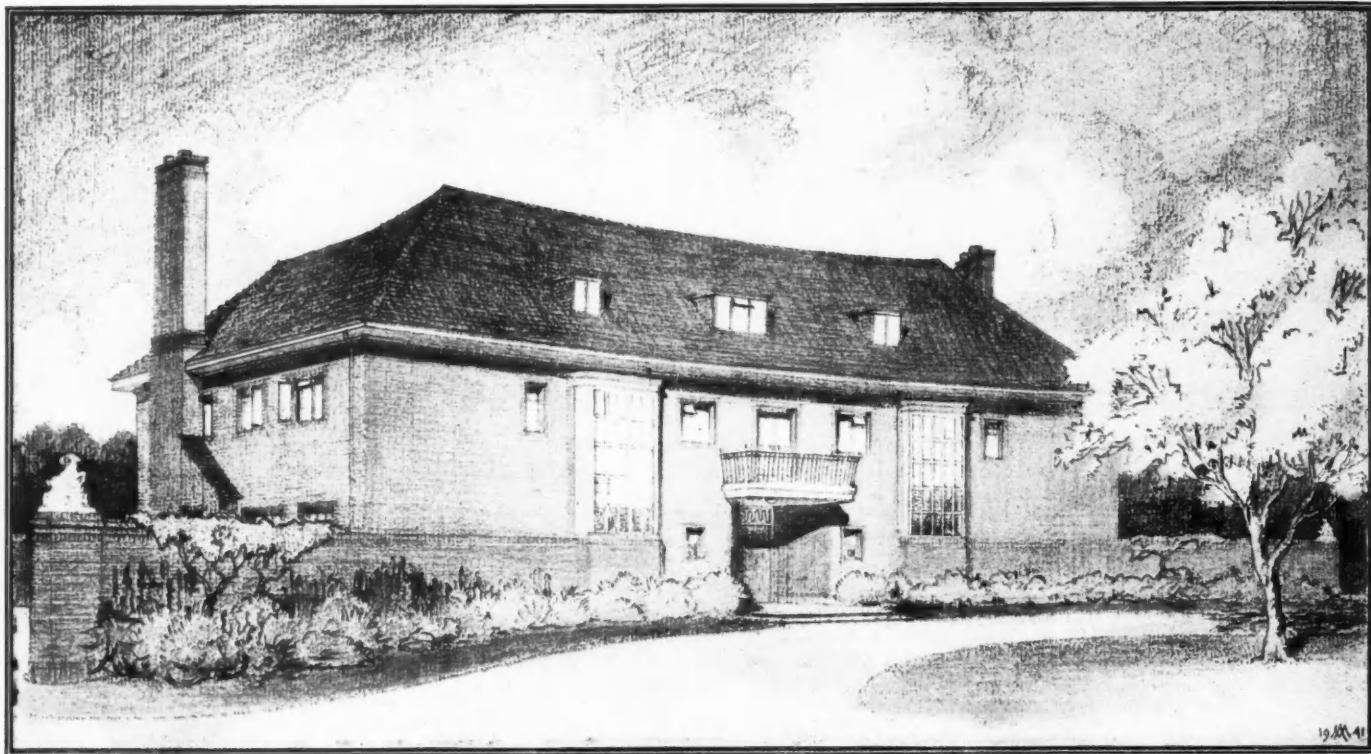


A VIEW OF THE ST. GEORGE'S COURSE AT SANDWICH, WITH PEGWELL BAY IN THE BACKGROUND

# COUNTRY HOUSES AFTER THE WAR

## III—A FAMILY HOME—WITH DIFFERENCES

Designed by ANTHONY MINOPRIO and HUGH SPENCELY, A.R.I.B.A.



THE CURVED ENTRY FRONT

**W**HAT will the post-war country house be like? How will it differ from that of to-day? Will there, for example, be some great social or economic change that will alter the English way of living, and consequently affect the country house plan? Or again, will some new material or constructional method revolutionise the appearance of our houses?

Messrs. Minoprio and Spencely believe there is not likely to be any sudden upheaval of the social structure of England after the war, or any fundamental change in our way of

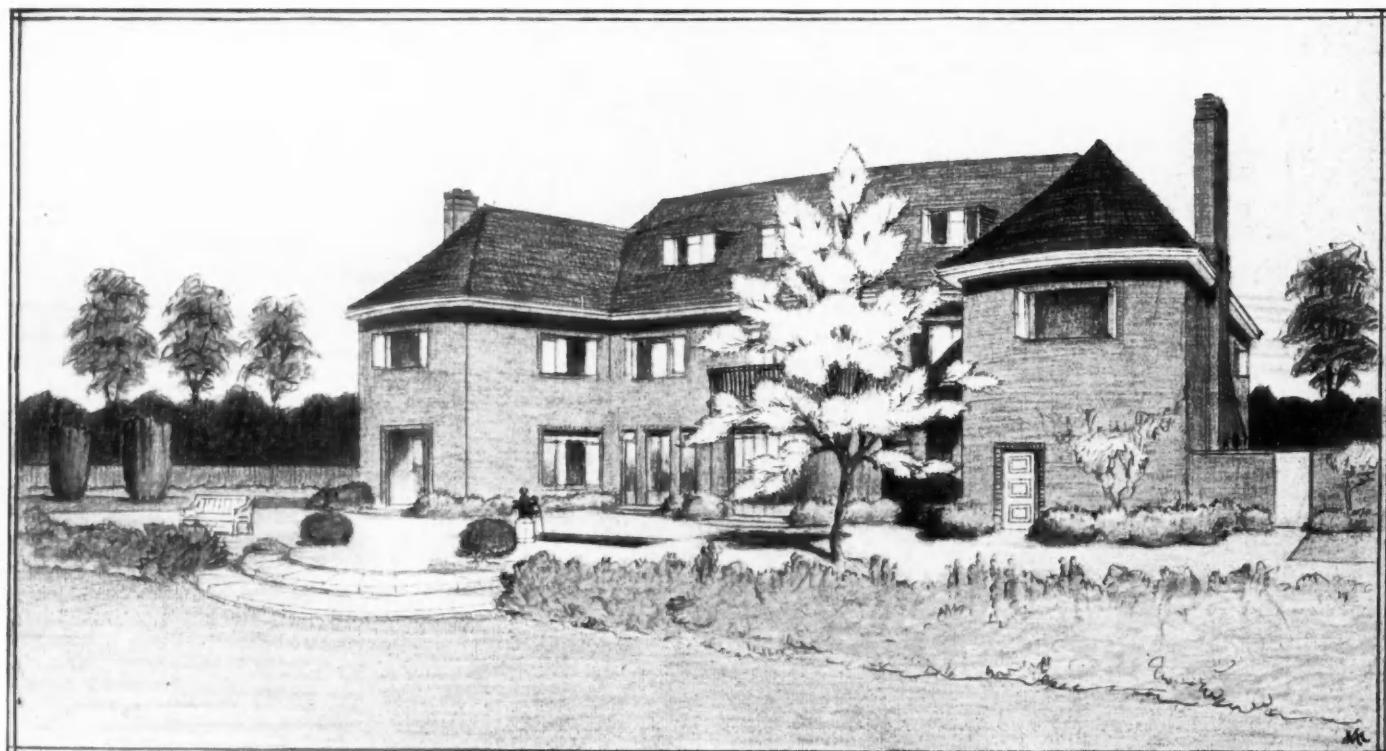
living. We shall be poorer, no doubt, but there will still be many people who can afford a country house and a small estate, just as there will still be women who prefer domestic service to work in a shop or factory.

In the smaller houses where a maid is not always employed, combined living-dining, kitchen-dining, or other dual-purpose rooms will become increasingly common. In houses of all classes compact planning, the saving of labour, and elimination of maintenance will be considered essential.

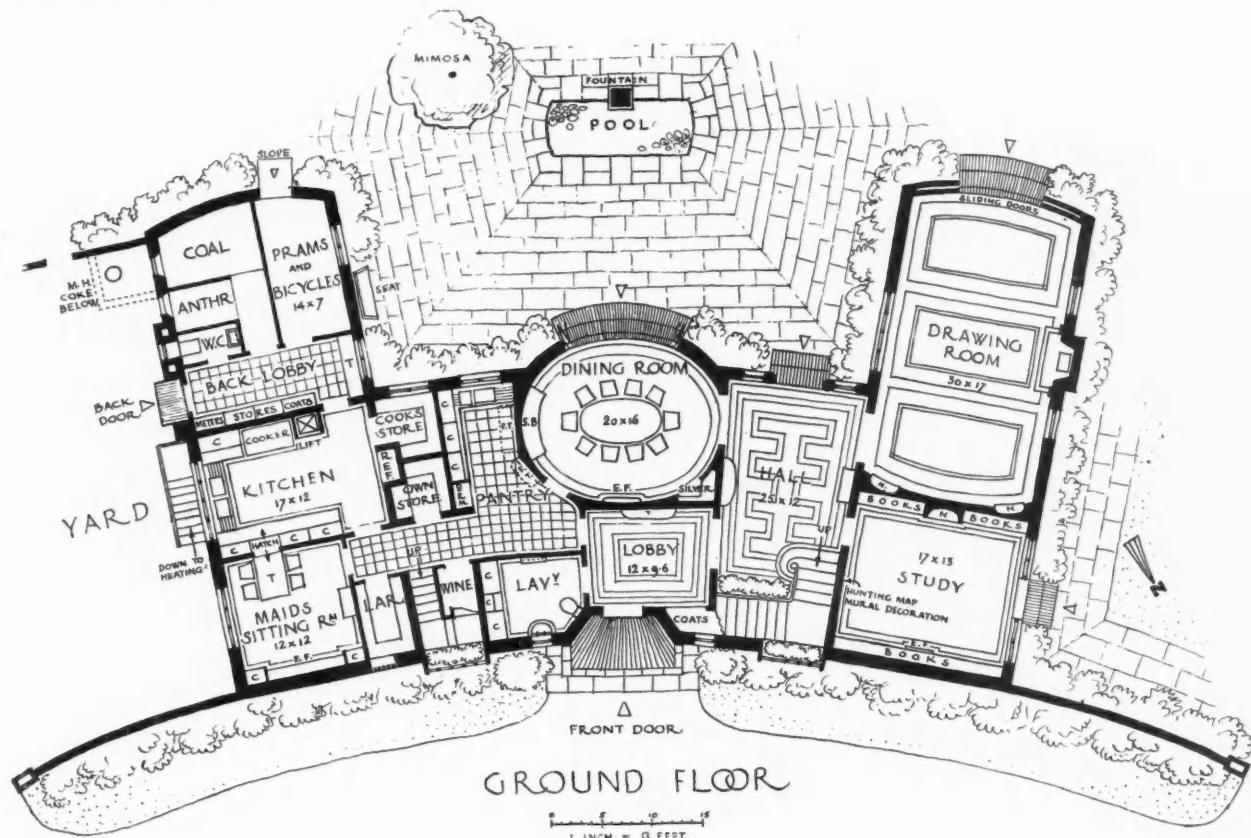
In their view, the big changes in the

country house will not be in planning, but in construction, materials, and equipment—technical improvements, which may, perhaps, make less appeal to the eye, but add greatly to the comfort of the homeowner. This house, which it is hoped will be built after the war, has been designed specially for COUNTRY LIFE and is intended to accommodate a family of six.

The plan is E-shaped, with the entrance in the centre of the curved north front, and a paved courtyard with mimosa and fountain pool between the wings on the south side. The oval dining-room forms the central feature



THE GARDEN FRONT AND TERRACE



of the ground-floor plan, and has large sliding folding windows opening on to the court. The drawing-room in the west wing is a finely proportioned room thirty feet long, with curved ends, concealed lighting, illuminated niches for china, and sliding windows leading to the south terrace. To the north lies the study, with French windows facing west. This room is lined with bookshelves in grey oak, and has a decorative hunting map of the district as a mural decoration on its east wall. The main staircase, also in grey oak, rises out of the wedge-shaped hall, and is lit by one of the tall windows which are features of the north front.

The eastern half of the house is devoted to the nurseries and service rooms, the latter on the ground floor. The back staircase and maids' sitting-room are arranged between the kitchen and pantry, and accessible to the front door without going through the hall. The owner's wife has her own store cupboard adjoining the pantry, where vase cupboards and large flap tables are provided for doing flowers. A hatch opens from the kitchen on to the maids' dining-table; the children's food goes direct to the nursery pantry by service lift. Ample cupboards are provided for storage of all kinds, including a room 14ft. by 7ft. in the east wing for prams, bicycles, and garden toys, with a slope down to the garden level.

Cooking would be on a gas or anthracite range, with electric dish-washing, ventilation, rubbish disposer, and a general utility machine for mincing, mixing, and shoe-polishing. The refrigerator would have separate compartments for different foods, each controlled independently.

On the first floor, the upper hall, guest's

bedroom and bathroom occupy the centre of the plan, with the owner's suite to the west and the nursery suite to the east of it, each self-contained.

The owner's bedroom is planned for use as a boudoir, and has a writing desk and ample room round the fireplace, in addition to hanging cupboards.

An upper hall at the head of the main staircase gives a spacious effect to this floor, with room for furniture and a view to the north and east. The spare room is on the south of this hall, with a balcony overlooking the courtyard.

The nursery suite has a large and sunny day nursery, with generous accommodation for toys and books. Adjoining are the nursery pantry with sink, refrigerator, china cupboards and service lift, a drying cupboard, and the nursery bathroom. Beyond these are the night nursery facing east, and nursery linen cupboard. A single child's room is placed opposite facing south, the whole group being compact and easily supervised.

In the roof are the maids' bedrooms and bathroom, with rooms for tanks and storage.

In construction, the house will be a mixture of old and new—15½in. cavity brick walls with reinforced concrete floors—brick because it has yet to be surpassed for beauty and weathering properties, concrete for its strength and resistance to rot and vermin. The facing bricks would be 2in. brown rustics in two shades with a buff dragged joint recessed half an inch behind the wall face. The roof will be finished with dark brown sand-faced tiles.

Externally, there would be no paintwork whatever to be maintained, the windows being of Burma teak allowed to weather grey naturally, the fascia and soffit of the eaves in elm, and the rain-water pipes of vitreous enamelled steel. All soil and waste pipes will be taken down in ducts inside the house to avoid freezing.

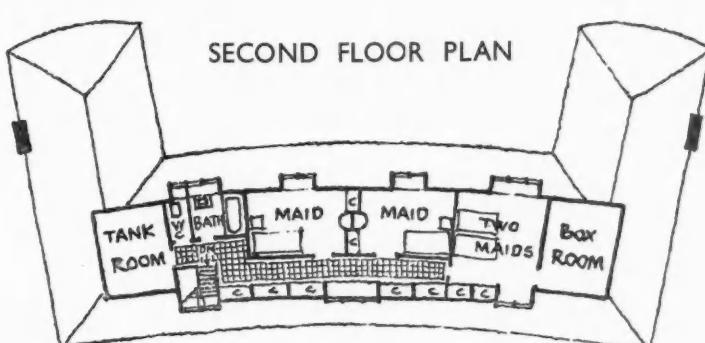
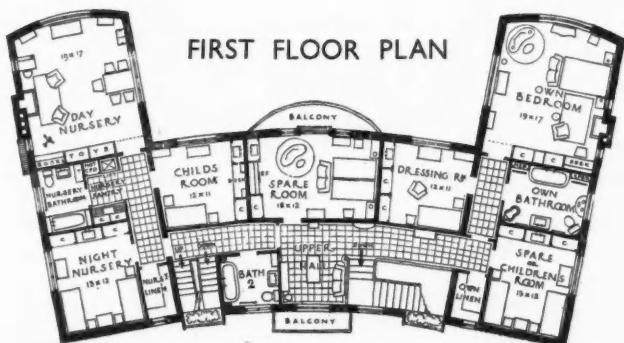
Walls and ceilings will be lined with insulating board or ply panelling, in order to avoid the disadvantages of plaster and to reduce heat losses through the walls.

The house would be heated by electric elements in the metal skirtings and architraves, with one or more thermostats in each room: a system which not only eliminates unsightly and inconvenient radiators, but gives comfortably warm rooms at lower temperatures owing to its better distribution of heat.

Concealed lighting by fluorescent lamps in the principal rooms will reduce eyestrain, and give an illumination nearer to daylight in quality than any other yet produced. One size of plug would be standardised throughout the house for interchangeability of fittings, and switches in the principal rooms would be of the silent type.

Doors would be flush, either veneered or painted. Special care would be taken in the design of partitions, and the choice of sanitary fittings and floor finishes, in order to make the house a quiet one. Cork tiles would be used for the floors of the nurseries, corridors, halls, back staircase, bathrooms and lavatories. The kitchen and pantry would have battleship linoleum. The drawing-room would have an oak parquet floor, and other rooms would be close carpeted.

A garage for three cars, with a small workshop, lavatory, and tool-shed would be placed on the east side of the service yard, with a chauffeur's flat over it.



# ARE WE ROBBING THE LAND?

Reviewed by ANTHONY HURD

*Soil and Sense*, by Michael Graham. (Faber and Faber, 7s. 6d.)

**A**GRICULTURE and the land are the theme of many books, articles and wireless talks in these days. Faced with short commons, people are suddenly interested again in the capacity of our own land to produce more food, and all the arts of propaganda are being used on farmers and farm workers to get a full response to the nation's call in its time of need. In ordinary times the general public in this country turn a deaf ear to talk about the importance of a vigorous agriculture and a flourishing countryside. An agricultural debate will empty the House of Commons, and news editors can always find more exciting news to fill their columns. But now in war-time agriculture and the land—they are really one—have many solicitous friends. To them Mr. Michael Graham gives some sound advice on fundamentals in his book *Soil and Sense*.

Mr. Graham is not himself a farmer, at any rate not an ordinary farmer. In a preface Sir John Russell tells us that his "professional work is with fisheries, and this has given him something of the close observation and contemplative habit of the true fisherman." Certainly Mr. Graham has thought for himself, and that makes a stimulating book. His observations and the conclusions he reaches about the soil and farming methods are in some ways peculiar. He gropes occasionally in darkness which a closer knowledge of the land and farmers would have illuminated. But in his groping he lays hold of several points that are important. The basis of any sound and productive system of farming is healthy soil. This the farmer realises instinctively, at any rate in this country. He has a great respect for

the soil and is a true husbandman, thinking not only of this season's crops but of keeping the land in good heart to grow full crops in the future. This respect for the land is engrained in the British farmer. There are a few exceptions, but Mr. Graham need not fear that the wiles of the publicist or cultivation directions under the Defence Regulations will change the real farmer's heart and turn him into a "land robber."

Mr. Graham is worried because he sees grassland being ploughed and the accumulated fertility cashed in corn crops. When we have won the war our land will, he believes, be in a worse state than before: "it had not recovered from the war of 1914-18." But was it the war or the era which followed that brought trouble to the land? There is nothing vicious in farming the land for a high standard of output. This is the way of many of the most successful farmers, whose land is better to-day than when they went into their farms. The fertility of the soil is best kept in circulation, the milk produced on the pastures being replaced by phosphates from a manure bag as conditions require, and of course in ordinary times by the residues of generous cake-feeding. In the past two years thousands of acres of such pastures have been broken for cereal cropping. Yet they will be as well farmed in the future as they were in the past if, as Mr. Graham advocates, the ley system, short-term grass and clover alternating with arable cropping, can be widely established. If the virtues of alternate husbandry, practised so successfully on Tweedside and on some farms in many other districts, are understood by every farmer and not merely by a few disciples of Sir George Stapledon and Aberystwyth, the soil will hold its own and render good service to the

nation after the war as well as in times of crisis.

Mr. Graham writes with a close understanding of grassland and the grazing habits of horses, cows, sheep and other classes of stock. He also holds interesting views about land ownership. His ideal is the little landlord whose creed is "The farms must be so well equipped and so fairly rented that they can always be profitable to a good tenant, given the usual variation of weather." This creed has three justifications. The farm is never empty. There is no temptation to land robbery, so that the future rental value is not endangered. Tenants are loth to leave, even when their skill and capital would merit a larger farm. Consequently the landlord is spared the anxiety that always attends the entry of a new tenant, however sound his reputation.

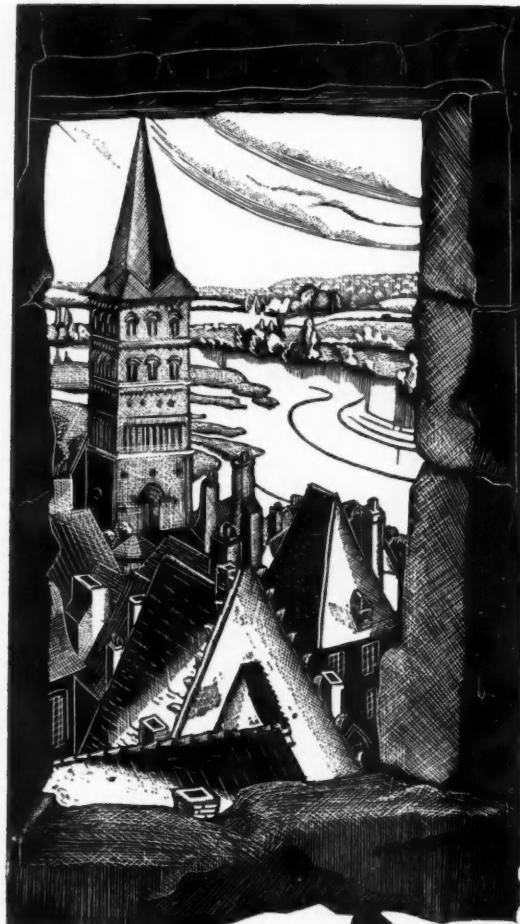
It would be hard to find an alternative system of land ownership by which the fertility of the land could be better safeguarded than under what Mr. Graham calls "the selfish creed of a little landlord." The example of the ancient colleges of Oxford and Cambridge is sometimes cited as if it were an argument for public ownership. If the colleges make ideal landlords, Mr. Graham reminds us that college bursars are not ordinary mortals. Civil Servants must be able to justify every action to a very general public. In practice a good landlord does not need to think how he would defend any of his actions: a college Fellow is usually brilliant enough to defend any action whatever in the intelligent world in which he lives. Of the three the public servant must conform to the most ordinary standard. There we must leave Mr. Graham, agreeing whole-heartedly with him that responsibility to the land is the key to farming prosperity.

## MODERN PILGRIMAGE

In the increasingly unquiet atmosphere of the last weeks before the outbreak of war, Mr. Owen Rutter made a journey through a part of history France, and afterwards wrote about it in *The Land of Saint Joan* (Methuen, 15s.). His planned itinerary could not be quite finished before it was time for a last-minute rush back to England. But he had covered the towns and districts of Chinon, Poitiers, Tours, Blois, Orléans, Bourges and La Charité, so that only Rheims, really, had to be omitted. It is a picture of yesterday's France that he paints, as well as of mediæval France, and his faith in the future of the country that bred Joan of Arc remains unshaken. For painstaking investigation and enthusiasm for his subject the author is to be commended; but he seems hardly the man to deal with Joan's "voices" or kindred manifestations of powers beyond the body. Indeed, his theories with regard to such matters are much harder to swallow than those of out-and-out mystics. The many wood engravings contributed by Miss Averil Mackenzie-Grieve are bold, sure and beautiful, adding greatly to the attraction of the book. Particularly striking are her *Tour du Coudray*, *Chinon* and *The Goldsmith's Tower, Troyes*.

## HOW THE CHURCH WORKS

In the compass of three hundred pages, in *The English Church and How it Works* (Faber and Faber, 10s. 6d.), Miss Cecilia M. Ady has accomplished a feat which most people aware of the difficulties would have deemed impossible. She has set down in fluent and lucid English a comprehensive and objective description of the Church of England as a going concern. Miss Ady embarks upon her task with her eyes wide open. She knows that just as the Church of England is a typical English institution so it eludes definition as successfully as the Constitution. She is not dismayed by the anomalies and paradoxes which abound and the compromises which bind them together into an ecclesiastical structure which for centuries has survived violent internal rifts and divisions. With astonishing clarity Miss Ady deals first with the government of the Church, showing in the light of historical development how its officers and councils have come to function,



LA CHARITE-SUR-LOIRE

(From *The Land of Saint Joan*)

how ecclesiastical law has grown into such a maze of contradictions that it is now quite indefensible and awaits long overdue and sweeping reform; how the revenues of the Church are derived and administered; and how the extremely delicately poised relations of Church and State are kept in equilibrium. All this is done most deftly and provides the answers to most of the questions which even well informed Church people ask at times. The second part of the book is concerned with the life of the Church. Miss Ady has two admirably concise chapters on "Belief and Practice," and in others discusses the place of the Church in the life of the nation, the peculiar genius of the Anglican Communion, and its wider relations with other Christian bodies. As there are many more intangibles to be dealt with in this second section, Miss Ady's picture is here less complete, for she has not attempted to take account of the living spirit moving and working behind the façade she so well depicts. Her historical perception and her powers of analysis and concise summary are, however, as valuable here as elsewhere. In a final chapter Miss Ady makes a spirited defence of the Church against its critics. Without sentiment or political prejudice she points to the true function of the Church in the secular realm. This volume is a model of what such a book should be, and no imitators are likely to improve on it.

## BOOKS EXPECTED

Yet one more novel from the pen of the lamented John Buchan is to be vouchsafed to us—this is *Sick Heart River*, which comes from Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton next month. Sir Edward Leithen, many readers will be glad to know, is the principal character, and the scene is laid in Canada.

Miss Naomi Royde-Smith has collected a "Diary of Rumours" which, under the title *Outside Information*, is to be published early in April by Messrs. Macmillan. *The Story of J. M. B.*, Mr. Denis Mackail's life of Sir James Barrie, comes from Messrs. Peter Davies next week.

Very shortly *The Agrarian Life of the Middle Ages*, edited by Professor J. H. Clapham and the late Professor Eileen Power, is to be published by the Cambridge University Press. From Mr. John Murray comes *The Royal Navy at War*, edited by Vice-Admiral J. E. T. Harper.

From Messrs. Batsford is to come *Church Craftsmanship*, by F. H. Crossley, and from the Cambridge University Press, *Joseph Conrad—English-Polish Genius*, by Miss M. C. Bradbrook.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

From Viscount Bledisloe

SIR,—I have read with care and much interest Mr. F. C. Bawden's well balanced article in your March 15 issue on the Government's "Slaughter with Compensation" policy in relation to foot-and-mouth disease. Far be it from me to present unreasoning opposition to this policy, if convincingly supported by reliable figures and the considered opinion of expert veterinarians. Faced, however, with a present serious shortage of meat and with the prospect (albeit remote) of national starvation through the steady shrinkage of overseas supplies, it becomes, in effect, an actuarial calculation for the Government, whether, and at what particular moment, if the disease spreads abnormally (as, under war conditions, it is apt to do), less drastic measures than slaughtering, burning and burying thousands of our unprecedentedly precious farm animals should be resorted to. If it can be proved that a continuance of the present policy is, as regards public money and, more particularly, the public's food, *on balance*, the truest economy, I do not desire to dispute its justification. But at any moment such proof may not be forthcoming, and in that event it is earnestly to be hoped that neither past practice nor departmental prejudice will stand in the way of its modification. It is, at least, material to remember that, even in peace-time, the slaughter policy has on one occasion in recent years been discontinued, as proving in every respect too costly, and the justification of such discontinuance has never been questioned, nor the quality, virility or outstanding reputation of our British livestock been thereby permanently diminished. In the meantime, at least let the carcasses of slaughtered animals, *after proper treatment*, be rendered available as food, if not for human beings, at least for our rapidly diminishing pigs and poultry.—BLEDISLOE, Lydney, Glos.

## A REPLY TO THE ISOLATIONISTS

From Sir Merrick R. Burrell, Bt.

SIR,—The Minister of Agriculture has made it so clear, in his letter in the *Sunday Times* of March 9, that the Government has "no intention of departing from its present policy in the control of foot-and-mouth disease," and Mr. Bawden's excellent article in your issue of March 15 is so clear and comprehensive that little more need be said in defence of the slaughter policy.

So far the letters of all those who advocate isolation, or even "letting the disease rip," show that the writers are either ignorant as to how very serious this disease can be, or have some axe of their own to grind. People in the latter category are well known, and so their advocacy is quickly discounted. But the unbiased though ignorant people can be a danger, as they mislead the public, and possibly also some politicians. In the first place, it is quite untrue to say the slaughter policy has been unsuccessful. It has been, in fact, eminently successful in stamping out quickly every invasion. The veterinary staff of the Ministry of Agriculture are much to be congratulated, and I only pray the officials in Ireland will prove equally efficient.

The accusation of unsucces is based, I presume, on the failure to prevent recurrent sporadic invasions. But that has nothing whatever to do with the point under discussion. The possible avenues of invasion by the disease are many and varied. Some can be blocked, some cannot. All that can be blocked have been. But whether you stamp out each invasion, or "let the disease rip" and allow each fresh invasion to add fuel to the fire caused by the remainder which we cannot block, is the basis of the argument. I know it will be said: "Oh, no. We advocate isolation." In answering that, let us first make a list of the more probable uncontrollable avenues of invasion: people, packing straw and hay, vegetables, hides, meat, including bones, migratory birds, and rats. The chief danger is in the marrow of bones and blood serum of meat, and vegetable refuse. These, carried into fields by dogs, or infecting rats on refuse heaps, or fed unboiled to pigs, are very real causes of infection.

Now as to isolation of an infected farm. You may take every possible precaution, but can you control the careless folk, dogs, and cats, the birds, and every single person who has to come on to the farm and go off again to go home? If a man on the infected farm is courting an attractive girl on some other farm, human nature prevents you from isolating that man for weeks on end, and affection becomes infection! I would ask the advocates of isolation one question. Can they quote any country where it has proved successful?

It is futile to argue that because in hot and dry climates the disease is of a benign form, we can afford to take risks here in a cold and damp one. The disease loses virulence under the first conditions and becomes far more malignant under the second. Meat and bones can be frozen for months and remain infective.

To pooh-pooh its seriousness is also dangerous. — saw in France during the last war pigs with the

hoofs of their feet peeling off, and cows with part of their tongues sloughing away. Not a pretty sight.

Two years ago the French allowed to slip into France some sheep from hot, dry North Africa, infected, but with such slight clinical symptoms as to escape detection. France at that time was nearly free from the disease. But these sheep started a prairie fire which raged right through France, Belgium, Holland and Germany into Russia. Many animals died, and the losses ran into many millions of pounds, as this benign hot-country type developed into a violently virulent form in the cold of Europe. Without the safeguard of our slaughter policy we might have lost all our lambs, young pigs, and most of our calves that year.

We have spent well over £300,000 in research into this disease in the last eighteen years and have learnt a very great deal. We are, I am told, very near to having a satisfactory vaccine for the most prevalent type of the disease. But immunisation against one type is no safeguard against the two or three other types. Neither isolation nor immunisation will ever prevent a farm on which are infected animals from being a centre of infection—which means that it can be carried off that farm mechanically by living things not subject to it, and by inanimate things like clothes, straw, hay, etc., and directly by animals, like rats and hedgehogs, which can actually contract the disease.

So, even if a satisfactory immunising agent is found, our policy still must be to kill all infected animals and close contacts, but to immunise all neighbouring herds and flocks, in order to stop the spread of infection. If we can discover a satisfactory prophylactic then we can lessen the risk of invasion by insisting on all countries where the disease is enzootic, and from whence we import articles liable to carry the disease, using the vaccine, and so lowering the incidence of disease in those countries.

As Chairman of the Animal Diseases Committee of the Agricultural Research Council I have had the privilege of being in contact with Sir Joseph Arkwright and others who have been for years toiling to find safeguards against this disease, and I can assure you that the general public can have complete confidence in them and can quite safely disregard those who preach dangerous doctrines without complete knowledge of all the facts.—MERRICK R. BURRELL, Bt., Floodgates, Horsham.

## RESEARCH AND MORE RESEARCH

SIR,—The root of the matter is the slaughter of "animals affected" by foot-and-mouth—which admittedly on all sides is rarely fatal, and of which the effects on individual animals are relatively slight—and also of "contact animals," which may or may not have been affected. You say of this slaughter policy: "No one for a moment regards slaughter as the best of all possible policies; it is indeed a heart-breaking business."

I would call special attention to two passages in Mr. Bawden's excellently balanced article:

(1) "If there were an efficient vaccine known against all the viruses, which there is not, it would have to be available at a few pence per animal to confer the widespread immunity given by the slaughter policy. Indeed, it is possible that because the policy has been such a cheap success rather

than a costly failure, research into other possible control methods has not been pursued as wholeheartedly as it otherwise might have been. If this is so, it is a serious criticism, for the slaughter of even such a small fraction of our animals should be avoided if possible."

(2) "As no one likes the thought of slaughtering cattle, and the slaughter policy is necessary largely because of existing ignorance of the methods by which the viruses are spread, what is needed is intensive research to determine how the outbreaks arise here, and how they can be stopped from spreading by methods less crude than slaughtering. But until these have been discovered, to advocate the abolition of the existing policy, which although crude is economically sound, is to shoulder a heavy responsibility."

That during the war there may be reasons, which have not prevailed during the last twenty years, but now are said to necessitate a continuance of the slaughter policy, as Mr. Bawden suggests, I am not in a position to assess, but I am convinced that, however that may be, research and more research in the laboratory, coupled with experiments on "affected animals"—and by that I don't mean guinea pigs—in the clinic, should be undertaken, and all limitations upon them imposed or implied by the policy of immediate slaughter, if such limitations there are, should be removed.

Bacteriology has since the last war made such great progress—despite B.B. and his "stimulate the phagocytes" (see *The Doctor's Dilemma*)—that one would suppose that those of the medical profession eminent in this respect might be called into council and co-operation. Perhaps they already are. I make this suggestion with diffidence, as experts are little cattle to interfere with.—H. FITZHERBERT WRIGHT, Yeldersley Hall, Derby.

## MISS DELAFIELD'S DIARY

SIR,—Miss Delafield's Diary is a delightful addition to COUNTRY LIFE, and one reads with interest and sympathy her comments on the servant problem. But is it not a fact to be considered that a good and devoted servant is as fine a character as is humanly possible, and rare in any class?

It is pleasing and surprising, I think, to see how often in the daily papers are notices of good service of many years' duration, acknowledged and honoured by fortunate employers.—FRANCES L. E.

## EVACUEES' GARDENS

SIR,—Let us hope that the evacuees now living in country districts will do all they can this spring to help in the production of vegetables. Our own evacuees, whom we have had with us since the beginning of the war, had each a small garden patch given them last year where they raised potatoes and vegetables. Though the work needed a good deal of supervision, it was a great interest to them and of much educational value. When their parents came from town to visit them, the boys were able to give them parcels of fresh vegetables to take home. At Christmas-time there was a sack of potatoes under the Christmas tree, an evacuee's present to his grandmother who had come out to the party. What pride and satisfaction! Let us hope that next season's crops will be even better.—EVACUEES' HOSTESS.



YOUNG EVACUEES BUSY GETTING THEIR GARDENS READY FOR SETTING



A PREHISTORIC LOOM WEIGHT FROM BROADWAY

#### A PREHISTORIC FIND

SIR.—The enclosed photograph shows a loom weight recovered last year from what should have been a most fruitful site for archaeologists to investigate, a gravel pit at Broadway. The pit had already produced evidence of human occupation from Neolithic to Roman; but the sudden arrival of a mechanical digger has swept away all the best of the site, including a well marked hut with a clay floor, probably belonging to the Iron Age, shortly before the Roman invasion. To this may have belonged this fine loom weight which was rescued by a local antiquarian. It stands nearly six inches high; a hole is pierced through near the top for the threads to be fastened to it. It is made of fine quality baked clay or brick.—M. W.

#### BLICKLING HALL

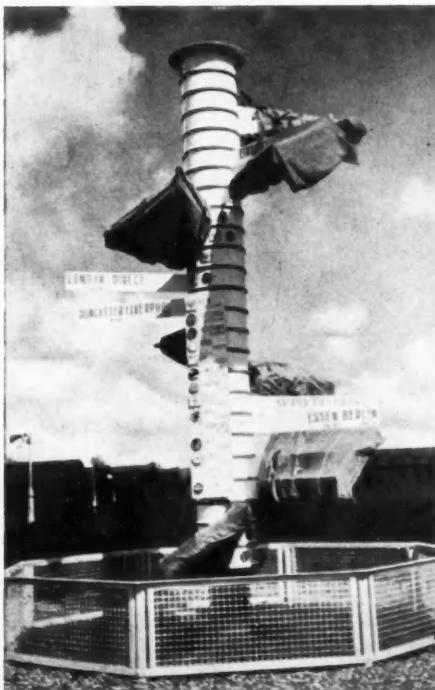
From Lord Noel-Buxton.

SIR.—One of the most interesting passages in your admirable article on Blickling Hall records the discoveries which Lord Lothian made as to the history of the staircase.

Your readers may like to know of another fact, of which Lord Lothian told me. He found that many of the great mullioned windows, which make the house so glorious, were originally not mullioned but sashed.

Considering how much beauty has been lost by conversions in the opposite direction, *viz.*, from mullion to sash, this fact seems as much a subject for historic interest as it is for aesthetic pleasure.—NOEL-BUXTON, *House of Lords*.

[Lord Noel-Buxton's information is of no little interest. It is not, of course, possible that



A DIRECTION-POST FOR AEROPLANES ON A DUTCH AERODROME

the sash windows referred to can have been part of the original Jacobean design, since the type was only invented in the late seventeenth century. The first introduction of sash windows in this country is generally regarded as due to Wren in his additions to Whitehall Palace for James II in 1686. No doubt those at Blickling were inserted at about that date. The restoration of the mullioned windows was evidently due to the Norwich architect Thomas Ivory, in about 1720, to whose remarkably skilful reconstruction of the famous staircase reference was made in the article. That an architect at that date should replace original fenestration with such accuracy that the fact was never suspected till Lord Lothian discovered Ivory's bills and drawings is a further tribute to the latter's unusual archaeological erudition.—ED.]

#### A JESTER FROM WALES

SIR.—You may like to add to the grotesque mediæval carvings which are illustrated sometimes in your paper, the enclosed from the choir stalls at St. David's Cathedral. The jester figures among the little people (he is only a few inches across) who adorn the stalls between the misere seats at a convenient height for the hand to rest upon.

Except for slight damage to the nose, his enigmatic smile remains as it was in 1470, the date to which the woodwork here is ascribed.—BORDERER.

#### SCENT DURING INCUBATION

SIR.—In a recent number of COUNTRY LIFE Major Jarvis remarked that sitting birds often fall victim to a fox when hatching time arrives, and raised the interesting question as to whether they give off any scent *during incubation*. It is undoubtedly a fact that many a ground-nesting bird sits out her time in safety but is discovered at the last moment. Gamekeepers know it is so with regard to pheasants and partridges, and poultry-keepers are aware that it applies to hens that have "stolen their nests." It is difficult to arrive at any certain conclusion, but it is my opinion that the odoriferousness of a bird depends to some extent on what it is doing. A pheasant or partridge sitting motionless on her eggs will not spread her scent around as she would if she fidgeted about. As hatching time arrives, when the bird hears her chicks "peeping" in the eggs, she no longer stays still but raises herself, turns, and thus spreads her characteristic odour, often with the fatal result of attracting fox, cat or other enemy. My conclusion is that so long as she stays quiet, a sitting bird, by reason of her immobility, has little or no odour.—FRANCES PITTS, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

#### FOXES IN TREES

SIR.—Many years ago, with the Essex Hounds. I saw a fox jump from a tree in Screens Park. The height must have been 60ft.

Hounds were taken back a hundred yards, but were in full view of the whole proceedings. A man climbed the tree with the help of a ladder, and when he had got fairly close the fox, which was lying out on a bough, ran along it and jumped.

The hounds saw him and must have covered nearly half the distance before he landed. He was slightly winded, but picked himself up and was off like a flash. The leading hounds, as they often will, seemed to say "Yours" to their neighbours. Accordingly the fox, just skirting the pack, was clear, and once clear soon increased his distance, although they could course him for about three grass fields. There was not much scent, and we lost him after about twenty minutes.

If he had not been a particularly active fox, I don't think he could have avoided disaster in the first fifty yards. Anyhow, we all mentally cheered.—ANTHONY BUXTON, *Horsey Hall, Great Yarmouth*.

#### AT THE AERODROME OF AMSTERDAM

SIR.—The photograph enclosed of a direction-post for aeroplanes I took before the war, at Schipol, the aerodrome of Amsterdam. It was very attractive with its coloured discs up the side, but from the aesthetic point of view rather spoiled by having the "fingers" of lines not flying that particular day simply tied round with untidy sacking! I suppose by now it no longer exists, judging by the number of times that Schipol has been mentioned on the wireless as having been bombed by the R.A.F.—F. M. BAIRD, *Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex*.

#### HOW LAND ARMY GIRLS LIVE

SIR.—The frequent reference to the Land Army in your paper makes me think that your readers—at least some of them—may be interested in hearing a little about their life.

All kinds of women from seventeen to over forty and all kinds of jobs are represented. At one Y.W.C.A. Land Girls' hostel in the home counties the girls include a hairdresser, a music teacher, two artists, a children's nurse, some domestic workers, two or three librarians, some young women of leisure, a canvasser, and a despatch clerk who was a bus conductor in the last war. Now they work from eight to five in the winter and from six-thirty to five in the summer, chiefly on large vegetable and fruit gardens.



THE SMILING JESTER OF ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL

The hostel, which is run for the girls at the request of their employer in an old-fashioned house in pleasant grounds, has a comfortable lounge where they can have sing-songs, and read, chat and knit in the evenings. On Saturday nights they ask their soldier friends—of whom there are many in the neighbourhood—along, and there is a free canteen.

The girls pay £1 a week for their board and lodging out of their wages of 35s., and for this they are splendidly fed—and indeed need to be. A sample dinner the other day was roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, the best baked potatoes you could find—as at this hostel the Y.W.C.A. cook-caterer is a positive genius—and stewed plums and pastry, which was so good it flaked to pieces. In winter the girls have a hot meal of this kind at night and take sandwiches to work to save time—sometimes returning to the hostel to eat them if they are working near by. Cutting the sandwiches is no joke, as there are about forty girls and each has six sandwiches.

The bedroom dormitories are pleasant and airy, and one of the ground-floor rooms has been turned into a shelter dormitory for use in bad air-raids. It has blast-proof windows and two-tiered bunks which were sent down by the Y.W.C.A. from London. All the residents take their turn at fire-watching. The girls do their own washing and ironing, for which all facilities are provided, and have also the job of cleaning their own gum boots—for this there is a special boot-room, but more often it is done outside, or still more simply by putting the boots on and splashing about in the near-by stream.

This particular hostel was opened in the late spring of last year. This year more and more hostels will be needed, especially in districts where accommodation is hard to find, if the Land Army girls are to be comfortably housed and well looked after.—M. G.



THE LAND ARMY CLEANS ITS BOOTS

## A SCHOOL FOR CRAFTSMEN

SIR.—Mr. A. R. Wagner's suggestion of a school for craftsmanship reminds me of the plan adopted for the finishing of Cape Town Cathedral. The Dean and Chapter could count on a continuous though small flow of money, and the stone used required practice to work it. So a small number of craftsmen were engaged for a life job, and when I saw it some years ago the plan was working beautifully; the cathedral belonged to the craftsmen, and the craftsmen to the cathedral.—  
M. ILES, Teignmouth.

## BREEDING DOGS FOR SHOW POINTS

SIR.—May I ask you to give a little more of our valuable space to the above subject?

Naturally, I am interested in the comments of the writer to whose article on Bedlington terriers I took exception.

To begin with—I do not consider that being able to hunt a defenceless rabbit is a proof of prowess in a sporting terrier. Many beagles, Poms and pugs can do that! The terrier who is able to catch and kill stoats, weasels, and rats quickly, and will go in to a cat that faces him, is worth something, and a working terrier is the likeliest to do this.

My reason for condemning the Dandie Dinmont is that he has not the necessary activity to make a good vermin dog. Personally, I do not know of anyone who keeps a Dandie for this purpose in preference to a terrier with longer legs. A professional rat-catcher wouldn't. Nor have I heard of Dandies being regularly used for foxes or otters. Most Dandies I see are taken out on a taut lead, but the owner is generally in front.

Apart from "style of coat," the character of a dog is affected by his being bred for silly show points alone. As for style in dog hair-dressing, it is a matter of taste, I suppose. I once saw, in France, a poor collie trimmed like a poodle. No doubt the Gallic barber was satisfied with the result, although unprecedented difficulty with the tail was obvious. God forbid that I as a Scotsman should ever see such a sight again. Incidentally, it is to the credit of my countrymen that no Scottish breed of dog has even a docked tail. Would that some of them could refrain from concerning themselves with topknots, long beards, and all the ridiculous features which, according to breed, appear to be essential.

Inadvertently, perhaps, Mr. Croxton Smith supports my original contention when he refers



A WINDOW OF THE SCHOOL AT EWELEME

to the Afghan hound. To our Western eyes, this dog certainly appears eccentric, but his coat is a natural one and may be the result, for all I know, of climatic or other conditions. The fact that he was bred for work (for possibly a thousand years) made him a *real dog*, but will British fanciers keep him so? He is no modern example of useless inbreeding and the misuse of scissors.—J. MURRAY THOMSON, 11, Melville Place, Edinburgh.

## A DUKE'S ADVICE TO HIS SON

SIR.—Your delightful article on *Forgotten History at Ewelme*, with its references to William and Alice de la Pole, the Duke and Duchess of Suffolk who founded the almshouse, prompts me to send you an extract from what I have long regarded as one of the most touching letters in the English language: William de la Pole's last letter to his son, written,

it would seem, on the eve of his flight to France in 1450, during which he was murdered. The letter is a remarkable expression of the simple, yet lofty, ideals that animated a knight of that age of chivalry when Henry VI was King and memories of Agincourt and the "witch maiden" of Arc were still fresh in men's minds. The letter runs:

"My dear and only well-beloved son, I beseech our Lord in Heaven, the Maker of all the world, to bless you, and to send you ever the grace to love Him and to dread Him; to the which, as far as a father may charge his child, I both charge you, and pray you, to set all your spirits and wits to do. . . . And that also weetingly ye do nothing for love nor dread of any earthly creature that should displease Him."

Secondly, next to Him, above all earthly things, to be true liegeman in heart, in will, in thought, in deed, unto the King, our aldermost high and dread Sovereign Lord, to whom both ye and I be so much bound, charging you rather to die than to be the contrary.

Thirdly, in the same wise, I charge you, my dear son, always to love, to worship, your lady and mother, and also that ye obey always her commandments, and to believe her counsels.

And if any other body would steer you to the contrary, to flee the counsel in any wise, for ye shall find it nought, and evil. Furthermore, as far as father may, and can, I charge you in any wise to flee the company and counsel of proud men, of covetous men, and of flattering men. Moreover, never follow your own wit in no wise but in all your works, ask your advice and counsel of good and virtuous men, and such as be of good conversation, and of truth, and by them shall ye never be deceived, nor repent you of . . . . By the which ye shall, with His great mercy, pass all the great tempest and troubles of this wretched world."

You may at the same time like to publish this photograph of one of the windows of William and Alice's school at Ewelme, the detail of which cannot be seen in the general view of the building. There are innumerable angels in the decoration of the church and the Duchess's tomb, and the supporters of the shields above the school windows, although rather worn by weather, are among the prettiest among them.—CURIUS CROWE.

[The Duke of Suffolk's letter reads the more effectively in context with the story of his life given in the second article on Ewelme in this issue.—ED.]

## FARMING NOTES

## IF ALL WILL PULL TOGETHER—

M. R. HUDSON has eased the minds of many farmers by the assurance he gave at Hereford that no more farm workers will be called up for the Services until after harvest. This decision of the War Cabinet was taken with full knowledge of the nation's most pressing needs—and increased food production is certainly one of them. It may prove more vital to the country to be able to feed itself next winter than to have a few thousand extra men under arms in this country. At the best, the men who might have been called up from agriculture could not have been made into trained soldiers under three months, and, whatever happens in the war, they are probably more usefully employed doing work they understand and contributing to the bumper harvest which the nation needs.

It is essential that all those working on the land should put their backs into their jobs just as if they were in the Army or in a munitions factory. In some districts where they have so far had little taste of war beyond the petty irritations of rationing and so on, it is not easy for farmers and farm workers to realise that victory may depend on their efforts. In Lincolnshire meetings are being held to impress the agricultural community how important their work is, and the organisation of such meetings in all villages could very well be undertaken by the National Farmers' Union and the agricultural workers' trade unions. Nothing but good could result.

If everyone will pull together, agriculture should be able to cope with all this season's extra work without any very great difficulty. We have our key men and we know that none of them will be taken until after harvest.

Many farms now have a larger arable acreage and, what calls for more labour, they will be growing more potatoes and root crops this season. Thousands of hands from outside the industry will be needed for work on these crops. In most villages there are a few spare men who can be brought in more or less regularly for farm work. There are grooms and gamekeepers over military age who can be persuaded to come along and give a hand with food production as an essential national service. There are not many of them, but there are some, and they ought to be brought in this season by suasion if not compulsion. The Women's Institutes are planning to assist with seasonal work in many districts, and their help will be welcome.

\* \* \*

BUT the main source of extra labour will be quite unskilled. All possible use will have to be made of unskilled and partially skilled labour. The experience of Oxfordshire is interesting. They have a scheme known as the Oxfordshire Camps which is supervised by a local committee and backed by the Carnegie Trust. The objects are firstly to supply seasonal and other labour for agriculture and rural work, and secondly to provide training and work of national importance for young people, both lads and girls, the former to prepare them for the strenuous life in the Services, and the latter as a preparatory training for the Women's Land Army. Permanent camps are to be established in unused farm buildings and empty cottages which can be reconditioned and made habitable by the men themselves, and the first camp for young men is now being established at Tangley Hall, near Milton-under-Wychwood. The aim will be to make the camps

self-supporting after some initial outlay on the basis of wages earned paying for all running expenses. The wages will be pooled and the members of the camp will receive a weekly allowance for pocket money. This sounds an excellent idea and it might be adopted in other counties. No doubt Mr. W. R. Greenshields, who is acting as hon. secretary of the Oxfordshire Camps, will be glad to give further information about the scheme. His address is The Agricultural Economics Research Institute, Oxford.

\* \* \*

THIS season we shall be able to call on more schoolboys to help with potato planting, root hoeing, hay harvest, corn harvest, and potato lifting. Farmers were able to call on them last season, but not all the offers of assistance were taken up because there were some doubts about the capacity of schoolboys to do a serious job of work. Actually, those who came on to the farms did extraordinarily well, and in most districts farmers will be only too glad this year to give a definite undertaking to employ schoolboys for a period during the summer holidays as well as occasionally in term time when they can be spared from their studies and games. Generally one or more masters can take charge of camps or working parties and see to the discipline and catering arrangements. All the farmer has to do is to undertake to employ the boys, and there should be no difficulty about that this season with all the extra cropping we shall have on hand.

There is also the hope of getting more assistance from the older children attending elementary and secondary schools. The Board of Education has advised local education authorities to arrange the school holidays in

consultation with the war agricultural committees, so that as far as possible the children will be free to give a hand on local farms at the times when their services will be most useful. So far so good. But the proposal that the older children should be encouraged to work on farms for half-days in term time under the supervision of their teachers does not appear to have found favour with the Board of Education. The education authorities are always very jealous of school hours and reluctant to countenance any poaching on their preserves, even in war-time. All the same, I know one boy of ten who has been busily driving one of his father's tractors for the past fortnight and making a very good job of it. He is a prodigy,

but many others will be only too ready to escape from the schoolroom on a fine summer afternoon.

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THE cut in the feeding-stuff ration on April 1 is one more reminder of the need for covering all next winter's feeding-stuff requirements from the farm itself without depending at all on purchased concentrates. This is a counsel of perfection, I know, but it could be achieved on a good many farms. In war-time the plough is the best partner for the cow, and it is by no means impossible for most dairy farms to grow enough oats to meet the carbohydrate requirements of the

COUNTRY LIFE, March 29, 1941.

herds. The straw comes in useful to supplement the smaller quantities of meadow hay which will be produced this year. It is the protein side of the ration which farmers will find more difficult to provide. Kale is one of the best of the spring-sown crops for this purpose. We ought to grow a greatly increased acreage of marrow-stem and 1,000-head kale this year. It is wonderful stuff for the cows through the winter, and can be grown cheaply, with less hand labour than mangolds and swedes. Linseed is another crop which can be grown to make good the protein part of the ration. High quality silage, the product of young grass, is also first-class stuff for the cows. Pea and oat hay is also excellent. CINCINNATUS.

## THE ESTATE MARKET

### LAND VALUES: THEIR BASIS AND TREND

THE announcement may shortly be expected of important transactions in farms in the Fen country. The high prices now payable for such holdings are a reminder that there is absolute truth in the remark that "English land is a manufactured commodity."

A former Duke of Bedford, "when surveying the profound depression under which neighbouring landowners laboured, would pleasantly observe," (records his relative, the late George W. E. Russell), "and I, too, should be in a very tight place, only that I luckily own a few lodging-houses in Bloomsbury." Among the vast estates bestowed on the ducal family, when the religious houses were dis-

great estate, to the tenant farmer who may have to raise part of his purchase money on mortgage, are tumbling over one another in their efforts to buy broad acres.

If the ninth Duke of Bedford were living to-day he might confess to a feeling that his farms are an even better security than the "lodging-houses in Bloomsbury." But the possible eclipse of the latter as a lettable or saleable proposition would be, of course, attributable to temporary and tragical causes, and need not be discussed here. The point worthy of emphasis is that, though few landowners have been able to lay out money in land improvement on the vast scale that was the case with Thorney Fen, practically every acre of the Fens



OLD TUDOR PLACE, SWALLOWFIELD, BERKSHIRE

solved, was that of Thorney Abbey in Cambridgeshire. How much money was necessary to bring that fenland area up to a decent standard agriculturally was revealed by the ninth Duke of Bedford, in his book *The Story of a Great Agricultural Estate*, published in 1897. Summing up the financial results on only two of his estates, the Duke wrote: "On Thorney the expenditure from 1816 to 1895 amounted to £1,598,353"—the odd £3 is a precious touch—"and on Woburn from 1816 to 1895 it was £2,632,186." He added: "After spending nearly four and a quarter millions sterling since 1816 on some 51,643 acres of land, a large proportion of which is some of the best wheat land in England, and after excluding all expenditure on Woburn Abbey, its park and farm, it will be seen that at the present time (1895) an annual loss of more than £7,000 a year is entailed on their owner."

#### FENLAND AS AN EXAMPLE

HOW the figures for the fenland were made up may be seen in the forty pages of closely packed statistics that the Duke inserted in his *Story*. Another English landlord, a contemporary of the ninth Duke of Bedford, was not the only one to express doubts about the then economic management of the ducal lands, and happily such a change has come over British farming in recent years that, so far from being a burden on owners and tenants, good land is now recognised as one of the best investments. As the sales recorded in these pages from week to week demonstrate, all types of investor, from the perpetual corporations, and the individual landowner who has already a

represents a heavy outlay by private owners and by public authorities for drainage and other works. Buyers, even at to-day's prices, will derive the benefit of that expenditure, and if it were ascertainable, as in the Duke's 1895 balance sheets, few would question that very little remained to be credited for the original value of the Fens as virgin soil.

#### THE PRODUCT OF EXPENDITURE

MORE or less the same is true everywhere of every type of land that has been long in cultivation, and strictly construed, "the inherent fertility of the soil," a very much overworked expression a few years ago, stands for very little compared with what has had to be spent, in labour, drainage, clearing, and cultivation generally, through the centuries. Improvements may, even in a few years, far exceed in cost the original purchase-money of a property. A leading estate agent, Past-President of one of the great organisations connected with real estate, once told a moving story of how a tenant-farmer planted fruit trees which became so valuable that, upon being asked to quit, his claim for improvements amounted to many times the value of the fee simple of the land, and in that instance, at any rate, the owner was quite unable to meet it.

The buyer of good agricultural land to-day is clearly taking something that represents the results of generations of skill and hard work and often a lavish outlay of money. With the advent of an assured market for every kind of produce, the outlook for those who can invest in agricultural land, or land capable of being converted to full productivity, is one that inspires confidence.

#### ANCIENT HOME OF THE BRUCES

THE Leeds office of Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff has sold Halleaths and Castlemains estate, in Dumfriesshire, to a member of the House of Lords. The property, 2,500 acres, includes eight pasture farms, many small holdings adjoining the town of Lochmaben and the village of Heck, and the income from the estate is £2,500 a year. The mansion, not included in the transaction, remains the property of Mr. Andrew Johnstone, who formerly owned the estate. The farms offer good shooting, especially wild geese and duck, and there are salmon, grilse and herling in the Annan, which meanders through the estate and lends enchantment to the property. The outstanding feature is Castle Loch, on the property south of Lochmaben. This water, three miles in circumference, has historic associations, for on a jet from the south-east bank stand the ruins of Lochmaben Castle, which was the chief residence of the Bruce, lords of Annandale, to the end of the thirteenth century. The castle was built as a fortress, and, with its outworks, covered about 16 acres. In 1487 it was annexed to the Crown, subsequently becoming the property of Mr. Hope Johnstone. The ruins are under the care of the Ancient Monuments Commission.

#### THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S BERKSHIRE LAND

THERE is a probability that in the near future the Duke of Wellington may invite offers for approximately 5,000 or 6,000 acres in Berkshire, being land on his Wolverton estate. Already a firm offer has been made to purchase it, but much remains to be settled before the land can be regarded as in the market, though His Grace is known to be considering the question.

Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Geo. Jackson and Son will shortly offer 170 acres including Mardley Heath at Woolmer Green, on the Great North Road, between Welwyn Garden City and Knebworth.

For a restored seventeenth-century farmhouse and 8 acres in the northern part of Hampshire, Messrs. Hampton and Sons ask £4,500.

The copy of a small manor house on the Chilterns is among offers by Messrs. F. L. Mercer and Co. and Messrs. Pretty and Ellis.

Lincolnshire farms disposed of in the last few days include Diamond Farm, Welton, 151 acres, for £3,350; and Newball Grange, near Langworth, for £6,400. The Stainton-le-Vale estate at Tealby, 2,190 acres, remains for sale after bidding had approached £22,000. The agents for the last-named were Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. and Messrs. Parish, Stafford Walter and Bell.

The principal house and its grounds at Bryntirion were the only unsold lot at the Dolgellau auction, by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. R. C. Knight and Son.

Wiseton Court, Dean Park Road, Bournemouth, one of the principal residences in the centre of the town, will be offered, on the premises, on April 7. The accommodation comprises eight bedrooms, three bathrooms, three reception-rooms, and a billiard room. The garden has a gateway into Dean Park Cricket Ground. The furniture will be sold on the two following days. Messrs. Fox and Sons are the agents.

A very attractive lesser country house is for sale, freehold, in The Old Tudor Place, Swallowfield, Berks. It stands on a byway, so has not the drawback of passing traffic, yet it is by no means isolated. The house, which faces south and stands on gravel soil, has been carefully restored and is in excellent condition, with all modern comforts as well as the charm of its period. The gardens are very lovely, and there is an orchard and, with meadow and pastureland, altogether 11 acres. The price is £5,500, and the agents concerned are Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff. ARBITER.

*"Every endeavour must be made to . . .  
produce the greatest volume of food of  
which this fertile island is capable . . ."*

—Winston Churchill

**SIMPLE  
SILAGE FACTS**



*Silage making in a container is the safest method. It gives high quality substitute for cake.*

**USE A CONTAINER**



*Each acre of reasonably good grass will yield about 3 tons of silage — more, if top-dressed.*

**SILAGE FROM 1 ACRE**



*Pack freshly-cut grass into container. Tread thoroughly and evenly as you go. Sprinkle each layer with diluted molasses.*

**IT'S EASY TO MAKE**



*Silage is no more difficult than hay-making to fit into the everyday work of the farm. Make both.*

**SILAGE AND HAY**



*Three tons high quality silage replaces  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton balanced dairy cake. Fed with hay, this supplies all food requirements of a 2-gallon cow for six winter months.*

**SILAGE REPLACES CAKE**

# LOOK AHEAD: YOU MUST MAKE SILAGE FOR YOUR STOCK

Cake will be very scarce next winter. Replace it by high quality grass silage made in a container with molasses. If the country is to get its essential milk and meat, ten containers must be filled this year for every one filled last year.

YOU MUST ACT NOW.

- ★ TOP-DRESS YOUR GRASS NOW
- ★ ORDER YOUR MOLASSES NOW
- ★ GET A SILO OR THE MATERIALS TO MAKE ONE NOW
- ★ IF YOU CAN'T, MAKE SILAGE IN A CLAMP, PIT OR STACK

ORDER NOW ALL THE  
SULPHATE OF AMMONIA  
YOU WILL NEED UP TO  
JUNE

## DEVELOPMENTS IN MARKET GARDENING

A brief survey of the history and work of the Experimental Research Station, Cheshunt, Herts, the recognised national centre for the investigation of all problems affecting the cultivation of crops in glasshouses and frames

By W. F. BEWLEY, C.B.E., D.Sc., V.M.H.

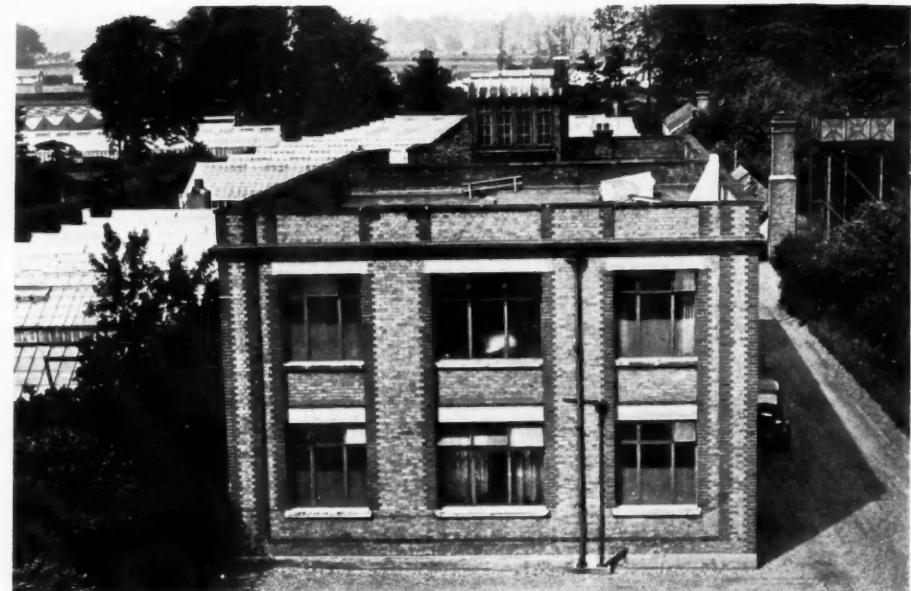
ALTHOUGH the need for scientific help in solving problems that were causing serious financial loss to the industry had been recognised for some years previously, it was not until 1913, when the ravages of the tomato moth caterpillar, *Polia oloracea*, made themselves felt, that the various commercial growers in the Lea Valley decided to co-operate and collect funds for the purchase of land and the erection of laboratories and glasshouses at Cheshunt. The ravages caused by this pest on badly infested nurseries at that time had to be seen to be believed, and the losses, estimated by the growers themselves at £40,000 per annum in the Lea Valley alone, caused such alarm that they decided that such money as they were called upon to subscribe would be well worth while, if control measures could be devised. So in 1913 a small research unit was established. This consisted of two laboratories, with office accommodation, five tomato-houses, five cucumber-houses, and an isolation house for work on plant diseases and pests. The early days of the Station were unfortunate, for not long after its inception the Great War broke out, and during the period that followed labour and other difficulties interfered greatly with research.

When peace came the committee decided to push on with their plans, and in 1919 they appointed a mycologist and an entomologist.

The entomologist's first problem was the tomato moth caterpillar, and by the summer of 1920 practical control measures had been devised which still remain the most effective way of dealing with this pest. They consisted mainly in trapping the moth in jars containing beer, treacle and sodium fluoride, and spraying the plants with lead arsenate and saponin.

In 1920 a method was discovered of using hydrocyanic acid gas safely in glasshouses for the destruction of the greenhouse white fly, and so a second dangerous pest was brought under control.

The first problem of the mycologist was the "damping off" disease of young tomato plants, and the investigations finally led to the preparation of Cheshunt Compound, the first known fungicide to be watered on the soil in which plants were growing without injuring them. Since then tons of Cheshunt Compound



A GENERAL VIEW OF THE CHESHUNT RESEARCH STATION

have been sold each year for controlling "damping off." In 1920 mycological studies were extended to "sleepy" disease of the tomato. The fungus *Verticillium albo-atrum* was identified as the cause of this disease, and its reaction to prevailing temperature was proved. Cultural means were devised for neutralising the effect of the disease upon the plant, so that wilting was prevented and diseased plants were induced to produce a normal crop by the simple expedient of raising the average day and night temperature above 77° Fahr., shading the houses, and damping overhead. In 1921 means were devised for limiting the effect of the red spider mite on cucumbers, and a control was found for "leaf spot" caused by *Colletotrichum oligochætum* on the same plant.

These early results provided the evidence, eagerly awaited by the growers, to show that money they had spent on the Station was not being wasted, and that scientific method could be depended upon to help the commercial man to overcome his difficulties and improve his crops. Since these early days co-operation between growers and scientists at Cheshunt has steadily increased, which has been all to the good of the industry as a whole.

From such small beginnings as the research centre of the Lea Valley growers, the Station has grown steadily until it has now become an important institution recognised by the Ministry of Agriculture as the national station for the investigation of all problems affecting the cultivation of crops in glasshouses and in frames. Having been extended on two occasions, it now possesses well equipped laboratories and slightly less than one acre of glasshouses.

trained scientific staff and practical men.

The work of the Station is divided into two sections, namely, the investigation of problems by skilled workers in the laboratories, and crop studies under commercial conditions in the experimental glasshouses. An important part of the Station's activities is the advisory service, whereby the results of research are made available to growers by personal visits to nurseries.

The Station publishes a report each year and occasional circulars when it is necessary to draw the attention of growers to new information. The Committee of Management, of which Mr. C. H. Shoultz is Chairman, is composed of commercial growers and well known scientists, with representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture and three county councils. A committee of this kind is well calculated to maintain the balance between science and practice and the Station prides itself on the fact that it provides practical assistance for practical men.

While it is not possible to enumerate all the results obtained during the past twenty-seven years, a few of the most important are worth noting.

In 1923 it was discovered that the vapours of naphthalene are highly toxic to the red spider mite. Applied with care, it is probably the best means of controlling this pest on carnations, and it is also used extensively to free tomato and cucumber plants of the mite, before removing the crop at the end of the season. In 1926 it was shown that the white fly parasite *Encarsia formosa* Gahan could be used for controlling that pest, since which time it has been distributed in large quantities each year to all parts of the British Isles, and even to distant Colonies. Its success was immediate, and it has since been recognised as a very convenient means of white fly control.

In 1925 it was demonstrated that mosaic disease of the cucumber can be transmitted in the seed, and later it was concluded that the same applies to tomato mosaic. This work developed in succeeding years, and led ultimately to the formation of the Market Growers' Seed Association, Limited, which was started to provide virus-free seeds for the use of growers.

Some six years later research showed the value of a salicylanilide preparation (Shirlan) with a wetting agent (Agral) for controlling tomato leaf mould, *Cladosporium fulvum*, and powdery mildew of cucumber, *Erysiphe cichoracearum*. This mixture was the first effective spray treatment for these diseases, and has been widely used. A combined spray capable of controlling these fungi and the red spider mite has since been introduced. This consists of a colloidal copper compound (Bouisol) mixed with an emulsified white oil of the type used



PART OF THE LARGE RANGE OF EXPERIMENTAL GLASSHOUSES AND FRAMES. The different types of frames in commercial practice are shown in the foreground

Extract from  
The DAILY TELEGRAPH  
Feb. 1st., 1941

**1,000 FARMERS LOSE  
LAND**

**INEFFICIENT WORK**

By Our Agricultural Correspondent  
About 84,000 acres of land war  
been taken over by county committees  
since the war began. Most of it is  
land that has been farmed inefficiently  
and has become derelict or  
semi-dilapidated. Nearly 1,000 tenancies have been  
either taken over by the committees or by farmers  
who are deemed more efficient. A good deal of the 84,000 acres  
consists of building sites, which for  
years have grown nothing but  
weeds. Though these figures seem  
large, it must be remembered that  
they represent only a small portion of our farm  
land and is approximately

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AND Service

for controlling the red spider mite, and is now in general use in commercial nurseries as well as private gardens.

Investigations into the cultivation of tomatoes led to the raising of a new variety, E.S.1 (Experimental Station No. 1), in 1925. This is a free-setting variety which does well on most nurseries. The fruit is of excellent shape, uniform in size and colours well. The only complaint made by some growers is that on some soils the fruit is too small. The variety is very popular, and is grown all over the country.

Leaf Mould Resister No. 1 is the result of fourteen years' work. It is highly resistant to *Cladosporium fulvum*, and produces a well shaped, rather small fruit, with a large calyx. On some soils the crop is light, but it is worth a trial on any nursery.

Investigations were also extended to lettuces, and seven years ago two new varieties of winter cabbage lettuce were raised: Cheshunt Early Giant for glasshouses and Cheshunt Early Ball for frames. The success of Cheshunt Early Giant was immediate and remarkable. It filled a gap in the sequence of lettuce varieties, for being a short-day type it will heart well even during the short dull days of December and January. In this respect it is distinct from such varieties as Green Frame and Golden Ball. Cheshunt Early Giant is grown extensively as an autumn and winter crop in heated glasshouses; and under the present conditions, when fresh vegetables are needed badly, particularly during the winter, it has achieved a well deserved popularity.

Cheshunt Early Ball is less well known than Cheshunt Early Giant, but it is an excellent frame lettuce for planting out in January or February. It gained first prize two years running in the cold-frame section of the Early Market Produce Show at Westminster.

A curious circular spotting of tomato fruit, previously attributed to injury by an insect unknown, was first explained at the Station about five years ago, when it was demonstrated that it was due to the germination of the spores of the fungus *Botrytis cinerea* in water droplets formed on the surface during the night. The germ tube of the fungus pierces the cuticle of the fruit, introduces a poisonous substance which causes the blister-like lesion, and then dies as the water droplet dries up.

In 1927 it was demonstrated that tomato plants growing in soils deficient in phosphate take up less potash than in soils containing adequate amounts of phosphate. The discovery was important, for it explained why applications of potash on some nurseries do not harden the plants as much as on others.

During later years it was also shown that nitrates which disappear from tomato soils



A GOOD CROP OF MUSHROOMS GROWN IN STEAMED CASING SOIL



TOMATOES GROWING IN CARDBOARD CONTAINERS PLACED ON TOP OF THE SOIL. THE LEAVES HAVE BEEN REMOVED TO SHOW THE FRUIT



A SPLENDID WINTER CROP OF LETTUCE — CHESHUNT EARLY GIANT

during heavy watering are not fully recovered in drainage from these soils. Actually the leaching of potash from these soils represents a greater financial loss to growers than in the case of nitrogen.

Two important investigations which have occupied the attention of the Station for many years are soil sterilisation by heat, electricity and chemical means, and the question of soil warming.

Soil sterilisation has been one of the Lea Valley specialities during the past thirty-five years, and the Station's experiments with the commercial aspects of the process have been followed with great interest by growers everywhere.

Soil warming for tomatoes, cucumbers and frame crops is a most promising innovation, which must surely come to the front when a few mechanical difficulties have been overcome and the cost of the process reduced sufficiently.

Recent experiments conducted with a view to improving tomato soils have proved the beneficial effect of good peat moss and clean straw. Peat is applied at a rate of 15 to 20 tons per acre mixed with the top 6ins. of soil, or 10-12 tons per acre pricked into the top 4ins. It can also be used as a surface rooting medium for tomatoes when laid down in June as a damp layer about one inch thick. If the original root system is diseased, new roots will grow out into the moist peat, and the only watering required is damping through a rose in the end of a hose every second or third day. The peat is soon filled with clean roots sufficient to maintain healthy plant growth until the end of the season.

Applications of straw are also beneficial on many soils, but it must be placed in the soil in almost vertical walls with the haulms vertical. These are 2ins. thick and spaced 10ins. apart. They extend to a depth of 20ins., and are easily introduced while bastard trenching. The straw walls enable water and soluble plant foods to be carried down into the soil and provide a good ventilation system. As the straw decays it helps to correct "soil sickness," as it leads to the destruction of harmful nitrogenous compounds present in such soils.

The work of the Cheshunt Station covers every section of the glasshouse industry, including crop management, improvement of varieties, control of diseases and pests, soil problems of infinite variety, water supplies, fertilisers, and problems of heating and light. In recent years the use of artificial light, plant hormones and water culture have been investigated.

During war-time long-range research is neither possible nor advisable except where cessation would ruin the work already nearing completion.

At the moment the staff of the Station is being used in an advisory capacity more than ever before. Nurserymen in many out-of-the-way districts have already been visited, and it is hoped to make contact with a great many more growers to whom the Station is at present merely a name.

The present conditions call for a greatly increased food production, and those who possess glasshouses are asked to concentrate their efforts on growing tomatoes. Many will need expert assistance, and if the staff of the Cheshunt Station can help growers to increase their output their efforts will be amply repaid.

## IN YOUR WAR-TIME GARDEN



We could advise you to use stable manure, but you would probably ask us where to get it. As an alternative we do advise you to use Abol Hop Manure, because it contains bulky organic materials and also the quick acting foods which plants need. In fact, it is the best substitute for stable manure that you can buy. Now is the time to fork or rake it lightly into the soil as a basic food for all vegetable crops.

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No. 3

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For particulars of these beautiful flowers see Sutton's Garden Seed Catalogue, free

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READING



# COLOURS FOR SPRING

By ISABEL CRAMPTON

NOT for the first time by any means, I am tempted to wish that the picture on this page could be reproduced in colour; this dress is made in such a singularly lovely shade of apple green, and the material, which is a very fine woollen georgette, is as it were dappled, rather with the same effect a mass of young green foliage has, and the sleeves, neck and pockets are hand-studded in gold, pale gold like early sunshine. If this description has been too lyrical, it is the fault of the subject in conjunction with the time of year, and a more practical note can be struck by calling attention to the gold filigree buttons on the front of the frock, and to the sensible little coat with long sleeves cut rather on the steward's jacket line which is lying on the table. This converts the dinner-dress into something more suited for home wear, or acts as a wrap, as its owner chooses, and has another recommendation in these days of stern economy, as it can also be worn over a short-skirted black afternoon frock or with a blouse and pleated skirt, in which the green note is struck, with excellent effect. This most attractive dress comes, or came, from Barri of 35, Grosvenor Street, W.1, but now and henceforward will come from the White House, 51 and 52, New Bond Street, W.1, since these two well known firms have amalgamated. Madame Barri's experienced staff—her fitters, embroideresses, everyone—have moved to the new address, so that, as far as her customers are concerned, there is no difference except that of her *salons* being in New Bond Street instead of Grosvenor Street. The lovely things in the new showrooms include another woollen evening dress, black this time, cut on Princess lines, with Oriental embroidery on royal blue as relief—a most original and striking garment. Two lovely evening coats most beautifully made and cut attracted me very much—one in white poult cut on formal lines with for sole decoration a delicate embroidery in green with a very little pink and blue around the pocket slits. The other was in grey woollen material with braces lines and a stripe down each sleeve of embroidered silver leaves. Among the day clothes I greatly liked a very nice overcoat in blue and grey tweed with its own silk dress trimmed with touches of the tweed, and a frock and short coat in a check of something the same shades.

## THE SMALL TOUCHES

The small touches in dress this year are extraordinarily interesting and, moreover, open a way by which the woman who is determined to be economical can ring the changes on a limited wardrobe and not only keep her clothes interesting but keep herself interested in them, which is probably more important. I noticed at the recent dress show at Simpson's in Piccadilly that with a greyish blue suit an ornament, a carved plaque in the same colour, was worn hanging from the coat lapel, hanging, be it marked, from a brisk bow of stiff ribbon in dusty pink; the effect was delightful. At Moira Page's, nearly opposite to Simpson's, I saw a suit with a patch pocket on the left front of the coat, apparently tied back to it at the top with a lacing made of the dress material as fine as cord fastened in a bow. A short red jacket had three of those elongated lions which

we associate with the Royal Standard worked on the left breast in heavy gold thread. The talented needlewoman could easily adjust such an idea to her own wardrobe.

## HOLLY BERRY RED

Whether used simply to stress a natural shade or—and to my mind this is far less artistic—to call attention to the mouth by its brightness, lipstick seems to have come to stay. A point which those who condemn it—and probably have never experimented with it

—overlook is that it is extraordinarily comfortable to wear, and that nothing in the way of make-up more quickly gives interest and freshness to one's looks. Messrs. Yardley (33, Old Bond Street, W.1), whose make-up materials, like their soaps and scents, are of the very best, have just put up yet another new lipstick shade. This is holly berry and is, as might be expected, bright, but it is a real rich red, neither bluetoned nor orangeish, and quite a lot of women will hail it as just what they have been wanting, and there is of course a cream rouge to go with it.



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## OUR TAILOR-MADES

IT is a part of the very practical outlook on fashion which most of the large shops and some of the best dressmakers have adopted, that our tailor-mades are more interesting than ever this spring. A good tailor-made suit or coat is always an economical purchase; it wears well; wisely chosen, it takes long to date; it seems to fit into the needs of almost every occasion and comes up fresh and attractive again after a visit to the cleaners time after time. Yet there were days when the English tailor-made suit was good—very, very good—but rather dull. Nobody has any excuse for thinking that of it now, the variety in styles, ma-



(Above) A SPRING OVERCOAT IN BLACK AND BEIGE TWEED CLEVERLY USED

(Left) SLACKS AND JACKET IN TWEED. A PRACTICAL OUTFIT FOR WAR-TIME

(Right) THERE IS A SUBTLE SOFTNESS ABOUT THIS TWEED COAT AND SKIRT

(Below) A GREY STRIPED SUIT ON CLASSICAL LINES

Dover Street Studios

terials, weights, colours seems to be infinite; the most classical coat and a severe, straight skirt are as correct at one end of the scale as is the practical little tweed slacks-and-jacket suit shown on this page at the other. This comes from Simpson's (Piccadilly, W.1), and they have such suits in many styles and materials and also offer others as three-pieces—trousers, jacket and skirt—which are most practical. From the same shop comes the coat and skirt on the right of the page, a very charming variation on the theme, plain and tailored enough to look quite well in the country, but, with its deeply pleated skirt, which gives movement as the wearer walks, suitable for town wear and a little on the less severe side which some women find more becoming than the semi-masculine tailor-made.

### STRIPES

The chalk stripe, which has been so much liked on coat and skirt materials, is still very much to the fore and not only seen in white, and I was charmed to be shown the other day at Messrs. Gorringe's (Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.1) the



nicest swatch—lovely word!—of patterns in which the line played its part. A deliciously formal little tailor-made in grey with a white stripe from Messrs. Gorringe's is shown at the bottom of this page.

### TWEED COATS

The picture at the top of the page may stand for the infinite variety of our tweed top-coats at the moment. They may be straight cut in the skirt, though not narrow; they may be belted; they may be shaped to the waist; or have trouser sleeves or Raglan sleeves; they may be faced with a contrast, match a dress to

accompany them, or merely take up one of the colours of a coat and skirt; be plain or checked. The one illustrated, which comes from Messrs. Jaeger (26, Regent Street, W.1), has quite a novel use of its material, a faced collar and an all-round waistline to make it different from most others and very charming too.

### SOMETHING TO DO

At a time like this more than half the world is working at full pressure, but there are still many people denied, for one reason or another—health, age, or responsibilities—very active participation in war work and others who at certain times, as, for instance, during the inactivity of waiting periods, find time very heavy on their hands. I frequently pass down Bloomsbury Street in an omnibus, and I have been very much attracted by a notice on the Dryad Shop suggesting that people who want occupation for their hands and minds should enquire there as to useful employments. If I were to find myself at that kind of a loose end I should certainly write or call to find out what is suggested.

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